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UNDER THE CARE OF THE JAPANESE WAR OFFICE

ETHEL Mc CAUL

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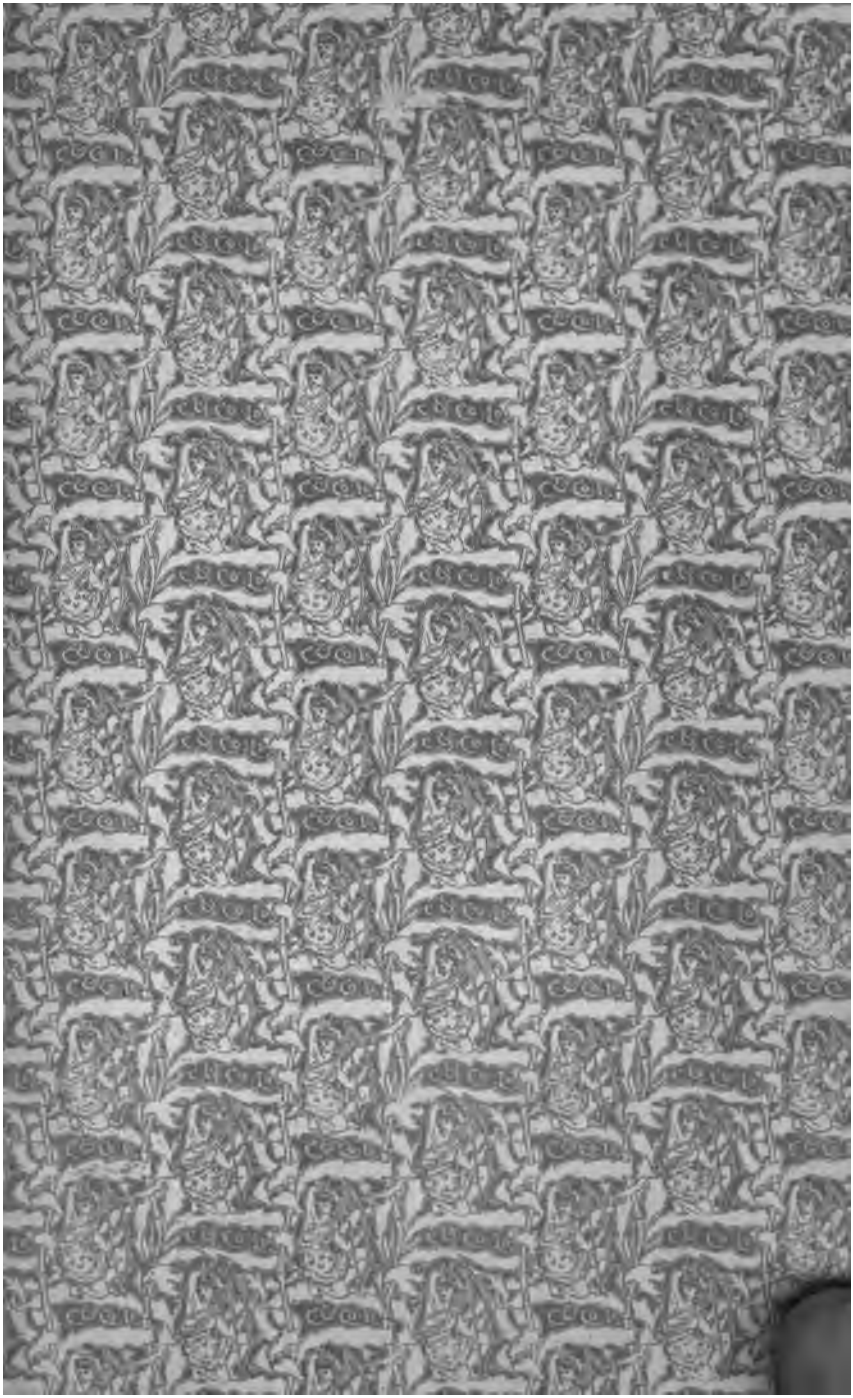

Photo: R. Maruki, Tokio.

LIEUT.-GENERAL BARON TÉRAUCHI, THE JAPANESE MINISTER OF WAR.

UNDER THE CARE OF THE JAPANESE WAR OFFICE

BY
ETHEL McCAUL, R.R.C.

WITH ILLUSTRATIONS FROM PHOTOGRAPHS

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DEDICATION

TO

HER MAJESTY

QUEEN ALEXANDRA.

In being permitted to dedicate this Journal to Her Majesty I feel very deeply the honour accorded to me, but deplore my inability to make this book worthy of so great a distinction.

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UNDER THE CARE OF THE JAPANESE WAR OFFICE.

INTRODUCTION.

WITH the sanction of her Majesty the Queen, and the permission of the Japanese Government, I left England on March 18th, 1904, accompanied by Miss Elaine St. Aubyn, to fulfil a mission which had been entrusted to me, that of inspecting the work of the Red Cross Society of Japan. I hoped to be able at the same time to use this valuable opportunity of acquainting myself with the methods employed throughout their military and civil hospitals, to see the organisation of their army nursing service, and, if time would permit, to visit the principal civil prisons. The following extract from Viscount Hayashi's letter left no doubt in my mind that the Japanese Government would fulfil their promise of sending me to the front :—

"With reference to our recent interview I am glad to be able to inform you that

our Government have now telegraphed me that the authorities concerned are prepared to afford you facilities for accompanying our troops to the front.—Yours sincerely,

"YADASU HAYASHI. *March 4th*, 1904."

That the task before me was attended with great difficulty I was fully aware, and many were the doubts which crossed my mind during the long voyage as to whether I had been too presumptuous in undertaking such a mission. Subsequent events justified my belief that I should be given every facility to carry out my plans. Though fully conscious there are many who would have made better use of these valuable opportunities, I venture to think that none would have entered on this work with more zeal and devotion. As I was aware that there was an enormous amount of priceless knowledge to be gained from the Japanese on these subjects, I was determined to gather as much of this information as possible, and through the courtesy of the authorities I most certainly did acquire what I was seeking. The reason why I was allowed to see and know so much of the inner workings of the Japanese military and civil nursing institutions is that I endeavoured to impress upon the authorities that I had come to learn, and not to teach. All I was privileged to see far surpassed my expectations; the Japanese are a marvellously clever

people, and their powers of organisation extraordinary. Amongst their most distinguishing traits are economy and exactness: an *economy* without stint, and an *exactness* which involves the minutest attention to the smallest of details. Their chief characteristic is patriotism, which is carried almost to fanaticism, and is without doubt the ruling spirit of their lives, every other feeling being willingly sacrificed. Such patriotism involves the entire surrender of all personal consideration, and calls forth the highest and noblest qualities in both men and women, and may be regarded as the religion of Japan.

My diary during our voyage, which took over six weeks, can be of very little interest to anyone but myself. Many have already described the various ports touched during a similar voyage. I will therefore start with the day on which we sighted the coast of Japan.

CHAPTER I.

ARRIVAL—TOKIO.

Thursday, April 28th, 1904.
S.S. "Manila," P. & O.

THIS was our third ship since leaving England. We came on board at Shanghai; there were only a few passengers destined for Japan, owing, I suppose, to the outbreak of hostilities. The voyage had seemed tediously long, due, no doubt, to my feverish impatience to start work. Nevertheless, it had not been altogether monotonous, for we had met many interesting people amongst our fellow passengers, including Mr. Kurino, the Japanese Ambassador, and his wife, who were returning from St. Petersburg, and had joined our ship at Aden. Mr. Kurino spoke fluent English, and I was able to have many long discussions with him. He evinced surprise and much interest on hearing my plans, and promised to call on me in Tokio, and, if I still needed it, to give me further introductions.

April 29th, Friday.

We entered the Straits of Shimonosaki this morning; it was wet and cold, not unlike

an April day in England, far too misty to enjoy the first glimpse of Japan. We anchored off Moji for the night.

April 30th, Saturday. Moji.

We spent a most interesting morning in watching the coaling of our vessel. Japanese coal is absolutely without dust, and the ship at the end of the day is as clean as when the work is begun. The rapidity of the proceeding is marvellous; men, women, and children all take part. Planks are placed from the lighters to the side of the ship, upon which the workers stand in rows, and with wonderful dexterity basket after basket is passed, full of coal, up one side and returned empty down the other, a monotonous dirge being chanted all the time. The women look extraordinary with their babies strapped upon their backs; they are most scantily attired, and this rough work gives them a very squalid and unwomanly appearance. It seems a perilous position also for an infant to have his or her tiny head wobbling in the air, while the mother stands high up on a plank busily employed in her trade. It struck me as demoralising work for women, and it impresses the foreigner in an unpleasant way on first acquaintance with the country, and makes one doubt whether these people really have adopted Western civilisation as much as is supposed. At twelve o'clock all the workers

left off work for their simple meal of rice and pickle, after which they made and drank straw-coloured tea. This frugal diet, which, I believe, scarcely varies year in year out, would certainly not suit an English bargee woman or coal-heaver.

During the afternoon a Red Cross Society's hospital ship excited our notice. She passed so close that we could discern her name, *Hakuai Maru*. Painted white, with a distinctive scarlet cross on her funnel, she was a fine, impressive-looking vessel, and clearly recognisable as a hospital ship. The nurses were readily to be seen moving about in their white uniforms, and we expressed a hope that it might fall to our lot to be sent to Manchuria in one of these vessels. At 3.30, as the weather cleared, we decided to go ashore, and after much scrambling over coal lighters, we succeeded in reaching the tug, which was to take us to the Shimonosaki side of Moji. Colonel Carré, one of the passengers, kindly undertook to escort us. Hiring rikshas from the hotel, we proceeded to visit some of the places of interest. The streets were so narrow that there was barely room for two to pass; they were lined with shops where everything but furniture (for which there is no need) was sold. We stopped at one to buy some most extraordinarily vivid and exaggerated pictures of the war. We then made our first acquaintance with a Japanese tea house about

half a mile out of the town, and taking off our shoes, we entered, and were immediately surrounded by the prettiest of little tea-girls. We adopted the customs of their country, sat on cushions, smoked long pipes, sipped straw-coloured tea, and tried to pretend we liked their bean cakes. We seemed for the time to be living in a picture-world, the colouring and daintiness of which appealed to us all. From this hour, I knew I should be captivated by the artistic charm of Japan. Next we visited a Shinto temple, where we for the first time watched the peasants at their strange worship, which seemed chiefly to consist in clapping their hands or ringing a bell, to attract the attention of their god. The temple in itself was not a fine specimen, but the novelty of the surroundings was impressive, as was the simple earnestness of the worshippers. On returning to the wharf we were met by a policeman, who asked a great many questions, and took down notes about us. To be addressed as "Lady or Gentleman, whichever the case may be, please give me your name," is unusual, if not a little startling; but foreigners just now are not very welcome, and are looked upon with suspicion. Indeed, the police think it their duty to stop and question anyone they may meet.

May 1st, Sunday. S.S. "*Manila.*"

The day was dull and cold, with drenching rain at intervals; but in spite of this we spent most of our time on deck, as we were passing through the Inland Sea. From the various descriptions I had been given I was a little disappointed. There was certainly nothing grand or striking about the scenery, only a plaintive prettiness; but had the sun been shining so as to reveal the colouring, it would, I am sure, have been really lovely.

May 2nd, Monday. Off Kobé.

The captain informed us at breakfast that we were in quarantine, the doctors being uncertain as to the nature of the sudden illness of one of the crew. Fortunately, it turned out to be nothing serious; but, fearing a repetition of this anxiety, I made up my mind to give up all idea of continuing our journey to Yokohama by sea, and to go instead by rail from Kobé to Tokio.

May 3rd, Tuesday. S.S. "*Manila.*"

Captain Llewellin kindly conducted us ashore in the morning to make arrangements for our journey by the night train. Though Kobé is a large, clean-looking town, with many European buildings, it seems to have little to recommend it to the foreigner. We visited a celebrated waterfall, and saw some of the "Satsuma" china being painted. On

returning, our attention was arrested when passing the station, by seeing troops leaving for the front. The greatest enthusiasm prevailed, and there was much waving of their flag, intermingled with the Union Jack. As the train steamed into the station, a little lady in her native dress came very quietly along the platform, and stopping at each carriage, presented every man with a post-card, but before passing on to the next compartment she made a profound bow with much dignity; following her was a man with a large basket containing neatly tied-up packets of food, which he also distributed. Everyone was sober, quiet, and dignified, and yet most enthusiastic. It was very different from the many sad departures witnessed at Waterloo Station during our recent war, and one could not but be conscious that this was a more fitting "send-off." Captain Llewellin, with much thought, provided us with a "tiffin" basket for our long twenty-seven hours' journey. The train was very full, and the traffic much disorganised by the transports, which were continually passing all through the night. Everywhere decorations of Japanese lanterns, flags, and gigantic, many-coloured paper carps were floating in the breeze. Bands played the trains out of the stations, no one seemed to go to bed, and the cry of "Banzai" rang out continuously on the night air. It was an extraordinarily

interesting experience; and even if it had been possible to sleep, it would have been a calamity to miss so much. The railway carriages, which are very long, are supposed to hold twenty-four persons; but we packed in about twenty-seven. The greater number of these were Americans, who afforded us much amusement. Their remarks were most original; they tried every kind of Japanese food brought to the carriage windows, hopped in and out at every station to see the "Japs," and drank more tea than I thought it possible for any human beings to drink and live. Generally, they enjoyed themselves without in the least really appreciating the unusual incidents happening around them. At Osaka, two Japanese women entered the carriage, and from the severity of their dress we took them to be nurses. One of them seemed to hold an important position, for many people came to see her off. The women were all dressed alike—in black kimonos; and on the left breast they wore medals. Their hair was so elaborately done that it was impossible for them to wear any headgear. As the train departed the bowing from the platform was very profound. The elder of the two women whom we thought to be of importance, was exceedingly handsome and aristocratic-looking; but what excited our curiosity most was the fact that she wore on her left hand a broad gold ring with a scarlet enamelled cross let in, which

led us to suppose that she belonged to the Red Cross Society, if not to the regular nursing world. Our arrival at Tokio at 9.30 p.m. was a great relief, and during our long ride in rikshas through endless, silent streets, lighted by many-coloured lanterns, it was difficult to realise that we had at last accomplished our journey.

May 5th, Thursday. Metropole Hotel, Tokio.

I was anxious to lose no time in acquainting Sir Claude MacDonald of our arrival, so we started at once for the British Legation. It was a long way from the hotel, and, as it was raining, Tokio appeared colourless and rather insipid—almost disappointing, in spite of the novelty of the surroundings, and the picturesqueness of the many-coloured umbrellas and curious costumes. Sir Claude MacDonald's reception was cordial, but he informed me that, though he had been officially acquainted of my coming by the Japanese Minister of Foreign Affairs as far back as March, he had received no official information from England of my intended arrival; so I hastened to tell him that my mission was of a private character, at the same time handing him some letters, one from a friend in common—Sir Edward Ward, who had taken infinite trouble on my behalf before I left home. Sir Claude seemed a little sceptical at first on my mentioning I was going up with the army,

but when he read Viscount Hayashi's letter stating that the Government had sanctioned my accompanying their "troops to the front," he said I should not have the slightest difficulty, for the gracious interest the Queen had taken in my plans had certainly overcome all obstacles. He then acquainted me with the fact that I was in a day or so to be formally introduced to the Minister of War, General Térauchi, and to be placed during my sojourn in Japan under the care of the War Office.

May 6th, Friday. Tokio.

I felt free to enjoy myself until I heard from Sir Claude MacDonald as to the time of my appointment, so decided to see Kaimeido, which is one of the "eight wonders of the world." The drive was long and interesting, and on the way we visited a Shinto temple, which seemed surrounded by mystery, and full of pathetic interest. On arriving, we found it to be a fête day; the wistaria was in full bloom, and its trails hung from the pergolas like mauve curtains, and swept the ground. The air was fragrant with the scent, and the beauty of this magnificent floral display was reflected in the water, over which many quaint and almost impossible bridges were built. I was delighted beyond words to see the place in such perfection. The fête chiefly consisted of worshipping at the temples. The place was literally thronged with people of the poorer

class, who all appeared contented and happy; indeed, they looked as if they had never known sorrow, or the depression of poverty. But if we stood still we were surrounded by a crowd, so we pushed our way slowly to the various little stalls; everything was made of coloured paper and artificial flowers, too trumpery to buy. But Japan had thrown her spell, and I was already intensely fascinated by this "Wonderland," the magic of which it is impossible to realise unless seen. It is difficult to believe that these light-hearted people are engaged in serious warfare, for these merry little women seem bent on nothing more serious than having their hair marvellously dressed, each one looking as if she had come from a Japanese "Truefitt," and appearing in curiously-coloured kimonos, seemingly for the express purpose of making every street and corner picturesque by her presence. The men, on the contrary, in their sombre-coloured kimonos, closely-cropped hair, and clean-shaven, ascetic faces, reminded one of the members of some vast religious order; it was impossible to think of them as men prepared to take up arms at any moment to fight for their country. Little children, clothed in the brightest of colours, with their hair cut in such a way as to resemble a sweep's brush, or flopping about like long black tape (for it is very thickly greased), thronged the streets, playing their childish games in the

middle of the road, and many a small girl or boy, not more than a few years old, was to be seen running about with a baby strapped on its back. The Minister of War has appointed to-morrow for my formal introduction.

May 7th, Saturday.

Soon after breakfast, Baron Sannomiya, "Master of the Imperial Ceremonies," called. His greeting was most cordial, and we were much impressed by the courteous deference of his manner. He discussed the war, and their successes, but with a perfect freedom from any over-exultation. He was grave in the extreme, and seemed much in earnest. He enquired after the health of the King and Queen, and expressed the hope that, as her Majesty had been so gracious as to be interested in their Red Cross Society, I should "take her back some small suggestions from Japan which would benefit her country, but he feared it would be impossible from a nation which was yet so young." After much bowing and repeatedly assuring us of his great desire to be of the slightest service, he finally retired. This custom of bowing must strike all foreigners at first as impressive, for all classes, from the highest to the lowest, practise it. It does not in the least resemble the bowing of a Frenchman, but is a ceremony so dignified that one cannot but be very much

struck when it comes to the poorest newspaper-runner who happens to collide with a *confrère*, immediately stopping and apologising with the profoundest of bows.

We hastened to keep our appointment with Sir Claude MacDonald, who at once drove us to the official residence of the Minister of War. At the entrance to the house, two aides-de-camp received us, and to them we were formally introduced. We were then ushered into the drawing-room to await General Térauchi, who very soon came in. Sir Claude presented me, and then Miss St. Aubyn. He shook hands with his left hand, —the right had been shattered by a bullet, we were afterwards told. As he spoke no English, Sir Claude did most of the talking. In spite of the gravity of the Minister's manner, I could see there was an underlying current of amusement as he contemplated us; indeed, we all felt it was with the greatest difficulty that we preserved serious countenances, for the idea of two women thinking for one moment of going to the "front," was ludicrous to the mind of a Japanese. Nevertheless, he had been treating the idea with all seriousness, and was making the most elaborate and thoughtful preparations for our departure. He informed us that a Japanese lady, Madame Kuroda, was to accompany us as a War Office official during our sojourn here, even up to the front; and sending for her from

the adjoining room, he introduced her to us at once. She had a most intelligent face, and spoke fluent English, but with a slightly American accent; her appearance and her dress were European.

On returning to the Legation, Sir Claude read us an extract from a letter from one of the English attachés, who had a few days before left for the front with Sir Ian Hamilton. He could not speak too warmly of the way in which they were being treated by the Japanese Government. On thinking the matter over afterwards I was not a little surprised to find what a high position the Japanese authorities had accorded to me. It was entirely out of their deep respect for our Queen, who had so graciously sanctioned my mission. I felt the honour greatly, but was distressed beyond words that at such a time as the present they should put themselves to so much trouble on my behalf. The lavish luxuries they contemplate giving me to go to the front I cannot possibly accept, and I have written to General Térauchi, thanking him for the trouble he is taking, but at the same time asking to be allowed to go up as simply and quietly as possible.

May 8th, Sunday. Tokio.

The weather has quite changed, and Tokio seems very different in the sunshine—a place which certainly grows on one; with every

Photo: H. Hakajima, Tokio.

MADAME KURODA.

drive we take new charms are to be discovered. Lady MacDonald's luncheon-party, at which, I am ashamed to say, we arrived late, was most interesting. I sat next to the Minister of War, and Miss St. Aubyn next to Sir William Nicholson. Baron and Baroness Sannomiya, Sir Frederick and Lady Treves, and several others were also present. The Japanese were in very good spirits, owing to the news having just reached them that Port Arthur had been successfully blocked. The modest spirit in which they receive the news of their brilliant successes, and the temperate way in which they speak of the Russians, are quite remarkable. The following speech, in quaint English, may illustrate more clearly my meaning. I had offered my congratulations on a recent victory. "We hope to be able to rejoice," was the reply, "but we must not do so over-much yet; we must hide our thoughts and feelings for the present; we are as children fighting grown-up people; our nation is still very young, and we are taught from our earliest childhood never to give way to excessive feelings." This lesson of self-control seems really to have been learnt by the nation, and accounts for the very quiet and unemotional way in which the troops take their departure for the front; yet there is no lack of enthusiasm, and the spirit of patriotism is carried so far that the soldiers would rather die than be returned disabled. Devotion to their emperor

and country is a thing so sacred that no sacrifice is accounted too great, for they esteem it an honour and a privilege to die fighting. Surely this must help to explain the secret of their success against such a power as Russia.

In the evening we drove to see the great torch-light procession, the first public rejoicing which has been held to celebrate their victories since the war commenced. It was an extraordinary but lovely sight to see 35,000 Japanese lanterns, of every size and shape imaginable, mounted on long poles, being carried through the city; and the effect of these many-coloured lanterns reflected in the river and canals, as the procession wound in and out, was exquisite. The intense quietness as it passed along was remarkable; the whole scene was one of quiet rejoicing. Again the unhappy comparison between this dignified spectacle and the brawling drunkenness of Mafeking night in London presented itself to me. We did not see one intoxicated person; and as we sat in the victoria, waiting to cross to the various streets, people of the very poorest class surged round us. The crowd was vast, and the night hot, without a breath of wind; and as they pressed upon us, I noticed there was not the slightest disagreeable smell. I think this must be due to the fact that the poorer the people are in Japan the more baths they take—three

daily is nothing out of the common. After watching the procession through the streets for some time, we drove to the Headquarter Staff, where we had been invited to witness it gradually wind its way towards the Palace. We were introduced to many of the officers, all of whom were in uniform; they welcomed us in the most kindly way, bringing out their few words of English in our honour, which we very much appreciated, though at times we could scarcely refrain from appearing amused. The room was crowded with people; all the ladies were in Japanese dress; the Marchioness Oyama and her daughter were introduced. Both speak fluent English, the daughter is pretty and very piquante. Everybody kept up a continual flow of conversation, mingled with merry but gentle laughter. Just before leaving, a very small but smart-looking cavalry officer addressed me, and, standing at attention, he made what he thought to be a very English speech in the loudest of voices: "Marm, I must thank you for your coming, Marm, and I want you to tell your country, Marm, how much we like your sympathy, Marm," and then hastily retired. Their earnestness is so great that one cannot give way to amusement at such moments, and it is really touching to see the endeavour they one and all make to speak English, and try to understand us. We much regret that neither of us can converse with them

in their own tongue. At present the English spoken is poor, but it is fast becoming the official language, much to the surprise and grief of the Germans, who are discovering that theirs is taking almost a third place. This discovery called forth the following remark from one of the high German officials: "The fact that English is the prevailing language in this country has done more to impress us with the power of England than anything else could have done." On one occasion a big international dinner was being given in Tokio, and the Japanese politely suggested that the toasts should be given in English. Lady MacDonald is presenting me to the Empress to-morrow.

May 9th, Monday.

The interesting ceremony of being presented to the Empress took place this morning. The only request about my dress was that I should wear a long light one, no hat, and my decorations. I drove to the Legation, and from there we went to the Palace. The moat surrounding the outside looked beautiful in the sunlight, and as we entered the grounds, everything had a very pleasing appearance. The Palace itself has been rebuilt within the last twelve years. The peculiar Oriental scent which met us as we walked through the long corridors was most fragrant. The large drawing-room into which we were shown was

Photo: S. Suzuki, Tokio.

MAIN BUILDING OF THE RED CROSS SOCIETY'S HOSPITAL, TOKIO.

most impressive, and the ceiling and doors were of beautiful Japanese workmanship; all that was in this style was in perfect taste; it was only when foreign art had been called in that the harmony of the surroundings was destroyed—the hangings and furniture which were European looked out of place. The room in which the actual presentation was held was very simple and unpretentious; the Empress, who was standing, surrounded by her ladies-in-waiting, was most dignified though very tiny, dressed in European fashion in mauve silk, with two large pearls in her hair, and a large pearl brooch; white kid gloves completed her toilet. The Chamberlain was the smallest of men, but he, like all the other officers of the Court, had most graceful and charming manners. On Lady MacDonald presenting me, the Empress shook hands, but her voice was so low it was impossible to catch what she was saying—it almost amounted to a whisper; but her lady-in-waiting, who interpreted, informed me that her "Majesty hoped the Queen of England was well; she was afraid I should have a very hard time at the front, but she hoped to see me on my return." I then curtseyed and retired, after which we were conducted through the Palace, and shown the throne-room and banqueting hall, which were entirely in the European style. It was a little disappointing to see everything so Western, as I had expected a purely Japanese

palace. My first visit to the Red Cross Society's Hospital took place this afternoon. We started at 4.30, and were received with much ceremony by the doctors and nurses. We were conducted to a room which had been prepared for our reception; a table stood in the middle, with chairs all round. No one being able to speak English, Madame Kuroda was kept busy interpreting, as I had numerous questions to ask. After the usual custom of drinking tea, we were taken round the wards and theatre; everything was in perfect order and scrupulously clean, but before we were allowed to enter we had to remove our shoes, which I thought an excellent practice. It is difficult to give a pleasing description of these wards. As compared with our own elaborate hospitals, they appeared empty and unattractive; and when I say there were no chairs or tables, but only very clean, well-ventilated wards and rooms containing little more than a bedstead with a hard, round pillow, it is easy to understand that they do not coincide with our ideas of comfort for sick people. However, I hope when Europeans are criticising these hospitals they will take into consideration the fact that the Japanese standard of comfort is entirely different from our own. What to us is a necessity would be to them a luxury. The head nurse or matron, who spoke a little English, invited me to see the Nurses' Home; and here again will come to

the mind of the European the beautiful nurses' homes attached to their important hospitals.

This home simply consisted of many airy, clean little rooms, with softly-padded matting floors. Small writing tables, nine inches high, were the only furniture, save for lockers in which to keep the nurses' clothes; and as we passed through the rooms many who were "off duty" were sitting on the floor, writing. The uniformity and neatness of these women looked most business-like, and our Western uniform had been so adapted as to meet their own requirements. The dress was of white cotton, simply made, two or three inches from the ground, with a very broad, stiff waistband, which took the place of stays. White socks and straw *zori*, or sandals, and a mob-shaped cap entirely covering the front of the hair, with a Red Cross in the centre, completed the uniform. In the theatre they wore white overalls with short sleeves, their arms being bared far above the elbow. To every ten there was a senior, but she enjoyed no title such as "Sister." Even the matron of this important hospital was only known as "Nurse." But that the nurses entirely recognised her as their superintendent there could be no doubt. On my expressing surprise at the disregard of rank, it was pointed out that the matron wore three little gold stars on

the collar of her dress, and the nurses in charge two, which is their only distinguishing badge. Implicit obedience plays as great a part in their training as the actual learning of nursing. I am not surprised to hear that Japanese women are splendid in the sick room. Their gentleness of manner and soft voices are not their only recommendation; their intelligence and quickness is unmistakable. Added to these qualifications, they have the most perfect little hands and delicate touch. Everything seemed in readiness for the greatest emergency, including their staff of 3,000 Red Cross Army Nurses. Temporary buildings were being erected in case of extra room being needed for the wounded. All the surroundings were in perfect harmony, and arranged on the strictest lines of method and economy, and this institution was worthy of bearing the name of "The Red Cross Society's Hospital of Japan."

The impression left on my mind was one of the pleasantest, and I marvelled that nursing should be so far advanced in this country, for it is only during the last sixteen years that it has been thought necessary to give women a systematic training. Of course, I cannot pretend to have grasped the organisation of the Red Cross Society yet; but what I have discovered is that the Society is immediately under the control of the War Office, even this hospital, when taken over by the authorities

for the wounded, no longer enjoys its original title, but is known as the "Military Reserve Red Cross Hospital." In this way it is merged into a Government institution, and is the only training school for army nurses.

May 10th, Tuesday. Tokio.

Everything in Japan happens at an extraordinarily early hour. We had to leave the hotel by 8.30 a.m., as I had received information that the Empress wished me to present Miss St. Aubyn to her at the Peeresses' School, where her Majesty was spending the whole day, as it was the eighteenth semi-annual anniversary of their athletic sports. The Empress, who is the foundress of this institution, takes the greatest interest in the education of her noblemen's daughters, and always makes a point of being present, so it is a great gala day for the pupils; a grand stand is erected in the grounds, and the place gaily decorated with flags. The Imperial Band plays at intervals, and sports and dancing take place. We were looking forward to the afternoon performance, to which we had received an invitation some days ago. On being conducted through the school we were much interested to see the pupils dressed in their national costume, but it is supplemented by a crimson pleated skirt (which they wear over the kimono), which is known throughout the country as the "national school-girl's

dress." European shoes and stockings were worn instead of sandals. All noblemen send their children here, as private tuition is not in vogue. Preparations were being busily pushed forward as we passed through the grounds. We were received by the head mistress, who is thought a great deal of for her learning and good works, and gives one the idea of being an entirely emancipated Japanese. We had to wait some little time for the arrival of the Empress, so I had an interesting conversation with the head mistress through an interpreter. She told me much about her work, pointing out that the chief reason for encouraging sports of every kind amongst the pupils was to develop the physique of the girls, to teach them how to lift their feet, which is very difficult, as when walking in *zori* they are obliged to shuffle, and generally to improve their deportment. Already a marked improvement had taken place; the girls were much finer and taller for the athletic training they were receiving. Efforts were also being made to give a broader education: English was being taught by an English resident mistress; sewing, and a certain amount of nursing, was included in the school-girls' training of to-day. To English women this may sound extremely uninteresting and commonplace, but this education is an all-important work. The future happiness of these Japanese women entirely depends upon it.

Photo: S. Suzuki, Tokio.

THE RED CROSS SOCIETY'S HOSPITAL, TOKIO.

THE WARDS ARE BUILT ON THE HUT SYSTEM.

The larger and freer the education, the better they will be able to throw off the captivity which has so sadly dwarfed their physique and hampered their existence, thus enabling them to take a higher position in their country than has hitherto been accorded to them by men. The pupils number over 400, and are taken from about six years of age to twenty; many of them are married women.

Presently a messenger came to inform us the Empress was waiting. We were hurriedly conducted upstairs, and along a passage, where we were met by the Chamberlain and the same lady-in-waiting I had seen before. On entering the room, the Empress was standing at one end with two of her ladies. She greeted me kindly, and expressed herself glad to see me again. I thanked her for the honour she was showing my friend. The presentation over, we immediately left, to return again at three o'clock, accompanied by Madame Kuroda, who now appeared in her national dress. She seemed like another person, for hitherto there had been little to remind us of her nationality. As she stood before us, bowing and smiling, her hair dressed high according to custom, clothed in kimono and handsome *obi*, with *zori* on her feet, she was a typical Japanese. All the formality and mannerism of her people had returned. Noticeable also among the men is this same adaptability of carrying out two distinct personalities. To-day they are

to be seen in sombre kimono, fan in hand, with manners and customs almost amounting to effeminacy; the morrow will see these same men as grim soldiers, unflinchingly facing an enemy, bayonet in hand. May not this peculiar gift in some measure account for the ease and swiftness with which these people have adopted Western civilisation? We arrived in time to see the procession pass to the grand stand. The Princesses were smartly dressed in European clothes, with the exception of the two younger ones, who wore the national dress. The Empress sat in the front of the box entirely alone. During the whole of the performance—in which she seemed deeply interested—the strictest formality was observed. She had no pleasant intercourse with the Princesses, such as our Queen would have enjoyed on a similar occasion, but, sitting in this isolated position, she looked extremely lonely, not to say pathetic. I suppose this rigid etiquette cannot yet be done away with, for it is only within the last few years that the Emperor and Empress have been seen by the public; and I hear there are still people living in remote districts who think that if they look on the face of the Emperor they will be struck blind. The afternoon was terribly hot, but it did not damp the ardour of the girls. A great number of foreign guests were present, owing to the novelty of the entertainment. The Japanese women wore their

most "formal" kimonos, their hair was elaborately dressed, and the delicate painting of their faces was a work of art. I give some of the items on the programme, which are as follows: "Skipping Football (modified)," "Fundamental Laws of Gymnastics in Ten Movements," "Mimic Sea-fight," "Cross Polka," and Cotillon "Whiteley's Exercises," "Throwing Ball," "Serpent Race," "Lawn Tennis," "Fan Dance," "Obstacle Race," "Benevolent Work," "Ambulance Race," and "Tug-of-War." Much of this was very amusing, but the most interesting part of the whole entertainment was the "Benevolent Work," which was in reality an exhibition of ambulance work; the demonstrations were the following: "Bandage-making," "Stretcher Drill," and "First Aid to the Wounded." The bandage-making was the first item. Calico was given to the pupils in the piece, and in a stated time they had to tear, roll, and finish the bandages ready for use. The rapidity and dexterity with which they accomplished the work was astounding. At the end of each nursing exhibition I was asked to inspect and give my opinion. They looked and felt exactly as if they had been made by machinery, and unless I had seen it done I could not have believed hand-work could be so perfect. Stretcher drill followed; boys were brought in who were supposed to have been wounded, and placed on the ground. The pupils came

round, and lifting them on to stretchers, carried them to the operating tables, where they proceeded to dress the various wounds (each boy having a label affixed stating the nature of the injury). The skill displayed in the dressings was marvellous, for the most difficult bandaging had been chosen; but what was particularly noticeable was the extreme quickness and gentleness of their touch. I find these girls receive instruction and lectures from doctors during the year, and their work is superintended by a trained nurse. This time on going round, Dr. McGee, the American lady doctor, who had just arrived in Japan, accompanied me, and was as much impressed as myself. This doctor, who undertook the organisation of the nursing arrangements throughout the Spanish-American War, had, with eight nurses, offered her services to the Japanese, hoping to be sent to the front. On her remarking that she was glad English nursing was being represented by me, I replied that I could not take the credit of holding such a high position, as I had not come to nurse, but to inspect the Red Cross Society's work throughout the country by the gracious sanction of our Queen and permission of the Japanese Government. At the same time I could not refrain from adding I thought it a grave mistake for foreigners and nurses to offer their services to a people whose customs and habits were

so entirely different from their own—to say nothing of the difficulty of language. If they had been without a perfectly organised military medical service it would have been very different; but here was a nation prepared in every detail to meet the greatest of medical demands, including 3,000 fully-trained Army nurses, who were at their immediate disposal. On discussing the merits of the bandage-making which we had just witnessed, I informed Dr. McGee I had made an astonishing discovery—namely, that all bandages used throughout Japan, both in civil and military work, were made by hand. The Red Cross Society undertakes to supply the army and navy with bandages in war time. The fulfilling of this contract is entrusted to the "Ladies' Volunteer Nursing Association" (though entirely separate, it is under the complete control of the Society); and incredible as it seems for such a gigantic task to be undertaken by private individuals, it is nevertheless perfectly accomplished. The Marchioness Nabéshima, head of this "Ladies' Volunteer Nursing Association," was introduced during the afternoon. She laughingly remarked she had met us before, and we instantly recognised her as being the "Nurse" who wore the Red Cross ring, and who had excited our curiosity on our journey from Kobé to Tokio. With much pride she informed us that her two daughters were amongst the pupils who were

learning to nurse, being also members of the Red Cross Society. Wherever we went, and whatever we saw, I was constantly reminded of this great society; it seemed like a scarlet silken thread woven throughout the country, which cannot be disentangled. Such a gigantic organisation as this could certainly never be ignored. The splendid example set by the Princesses of learning the principles of nursing is being followed by all classes, for they regularly attend, once or twice a month, lectures held at the Red Cross offices. Immediately following the Benevolent Work on the programme was a tug-of-war between the elder pupils, many of whom (as I before mentioned) were married. To see these pretty little women pulling for all they were worth, and being eagerly cheered on by their small daughters and school-mates, made an amusing finish to a delightful and interesting afternoon. Two of the seniors of these fascinating girls came running up to thank me in a few words of fluent English for coming to their sports and inspecting their work. They certainly have the prettiest of manners. Their National Anthem brought the festivities to a close. The following was told me during the afternoon: "The students from the Peeresses' School have determined, by the permission of the Imperial household, to make bandages for the army and navy. Every afternoon, when school is over, 426 students, dressed in

white, under the command of fifty teachers, are earnestly working to make 5,000 rolled bandages. The young Imperial Princesses are assisting the pupils in this philanthropic work."

May 11th, Wednesday.

It was arranged that I should visit the Tokio Military Hospital to-day, and arriving soon after 11 a.m., we were received by the doctors, all of whom looked very smart in their handsomely braided uniform; a green band round their caps and a stripe down their trousers denoted them as army doctors. Our reception was most cordial, but ceremonious. We were at once conducted into a large room, where tea awaited us. I was then presented with a diagram of their medical stations and depôts, starting from Tokio and extending throughout the country up to the fighting lines. This plan had been specially prepared and interpreted into English for my benefit, and it was particularly interesting to have it. We then started to inspect the hospital, which was built on the hut system, and had accommodation for 700 patients. The whole aspect of the place was cheerful, the wards were bright, clean, and well-ventilated, and the operating rooms fitted up with every modern appliance. Dressings were not done in the wards, but in small theatres or rooms set apart for the purpose. We stopped to see

fore, and if the outfit was not too expensive it could readily be renewed, so by this method they could hope to keep up-to-date with other countries. A stretcher which was in constant use I thought admirable for its lightness and simplicity; it only weighed 12 lbs. with hood, poles, and rainproof cover complete. Folding feet raised it slightly from the ground, so that if the necessity arose for a patient to remain long on it he would not come in contact with the damp. On seeing how much I admired it, the authorities kindly presented me with one. Their field steriliser was an adaptation from a German pattern, but had been improved upon and added to by an ingenious heating stove, in which charcoal, wood, or any other fuel could be used, the doctors informing me they had found methylated spirit quite impracticable for camp work. A large disinfector for the "field" was likewise constructed on thoroughly useful lines, being large enough to disinfect twenty blankets at a time and perfectly portable; it divided into three parts, and was mounted on large wheels. Surely if such sterilisers had been more freely used in our last campaign the "army blanket scandal" might have been avoided. All I had seen was of so much interest that I did not notice how quickly the morning passed, and I was afraid I had worn out my welcome; but the doctors encouraged me to stay by being so

enthusiastic in showing the improvements they had made, and still were hoping to make, in their field equipment. This opportunity of seeing the military hospitals in working order before going to the front will be of great advantage, and I left the hospital delighted with all I had seen. Several times I have been asked if I am really being allowed to know more than the surface work of the different institutions. Judging from what I have already seen, and been told, I should answer in the affirmative, for I have not asked a question which has not been readily answered, or expressed a wish which has not been gratified; even the request to visit the prisons, though causing surprise to the authorities, has been granted, and I am the first woman who has ever been privileged to see over a Japanese prison.

May 12th, Thursday. Tokio.

There is a prospect of our starting for the front about the 19th, but not direct, for an official programme has been drawn up, and we are to break our journey at the various large towns *en route* for Ujina, where we shall embark for Manchuria. Interesting and delightful as it would be in ordinary circumstances to see so much of the country, I am most anxious to avoid wasting any unnecessary time, and have tried to explain this to the War Office, but what is " official " here brooks

no interference. I have decided to tell as few people as possible that I am starting for the front almost immediately; the quieter it is kept the better, as there is such a strong feeling on the part of newspaper correspondents on this subject. To-day we have been to a delightful luncheon party given by the Baroness Sannomiya; the American, French, Italian, and Portuguese Ministers were present, including several Japanese of note. The table was beautifully decorated with azaleas and roses, and it was hard to realise with such European surroundings that we were being entertained by a Japanese host; but the Baroness is English—she speaks several languages, in which Japanese is included, and I am told has introduced many of our Western customs into the Court. Her personality is marked, and through her energy a large amount of good work is carried on throughout the country, and the Red Cross Society owes her much. Miss Hayes, her niece, who lives with her, has under her special care a historical little dog owned by the Baron. It belonged to Admiral Ting, and was once a prisoner at Wei-hai-Wei. After the tragic death of the admiral, the dog was sent to the Crown Prince of Japan, who presented it to Baron Sannomiya to take the place of a favourite one he had just lost. The little animal was brought in to see us in the most gorgeous of blue coats. Colonel MacPherson, R.A.M.C., who

are not notified of the hour fixed for their execution until a short time before it is to take place, as it is thought unnecessary to give them a long preparation. Terms of imprisonment here are from one month to eleven years. I think it may be of interest to give a few of the rules and regulations, which in some respects resemble ours, but yet have an originality and quaintness which, if not given in the original, lose much :—

"Prisoners in mourning for parents shall be released from work for three days."

"*Punishments.*—Solitary confinement. Reduction in food. Dark cell, meals reduced, and without bedding." The duration of these punishments is for two months or less for solitary confinement, one week or less for reduction of food, five days or less for dark cells. "If a prisoner punished with chains on both legs show marks of improvement, one of his legs may be released after the chain punishment has been served."

Rewards.—If a prisoner has observed the regulations and been diligent in his work he can receive a reward badge, which serves him as a testimonial for recommendation, "pardon, temporary release, or special pardon."

"A prisoner may gain more than one reward badge during his term. A reward badge is a strip of white cotton, two inches by one inch, sewn in front of the left sleeve

Photo : K. Ogawa, Tokio, Japan.

MARSHAL OYAMA.

between shoulder and elbow." The following are some of the advantages gained by having this badge :—

(*a*) "To have priority in taking the bath." This needs a little explanation, for in Japan amongst the poorer classes the same bath water is used for three or four persons. Surely it is as clean a habit as the use of public swimming baths at home, for the Japanese do not use soap, but trust to the extreme heat of the water for cleansing.

(*b*) "To be supplied with clothing and other articles of better quality."

(*c*) "Industrious prisoners who have saved over 2 yen (4s.) are allowed to buy eatables, the quality and quantity of which will be specified by the officials from time to time."

(*d*) "A reward of 50 yen (£5) is given in cases where the prisoner has aided in protecting the prison from fire, flood, and storm."

(*e*) A convict who has faithfully observed the prison regulations may, by provision of the Administrative Law, be pardoned provisionally three-quarters of his term ; in case of life sentence, fifteen years ; and in cases of transportation for life, five years."

Infirmary.—Special care is taken of the sick, and they can "call for medical attendance by informing the warder." Their cells are much the same, only slightly larger, and a small room is set apart for operations. "Sick attendants are specially instructed to

keep the cells clean, and see the bedding is in perfect order."

On leaving the infirmary, we were asked if we would like to see the hall set apart for "moral instruction." This simply consisted of a large empty room, in which is a shrine to Buddha. On Sundays or special days, after the work is over, the prisoners receive moral instruction, and are read to. It was curious to hear the reference made to Sunday, for it cannot be observed by the Japanese. Before leaving, we purchased a few of the articles made by the convicts, all of which were beautifully executed and exceedingly cheap; the money derived from their sale is placed to the prisoners' credit. Amongst the convicts is still to be seen the "political prisoner"—the man who has ventured to criticise too freely the "doings" of his Emperor. But officers of the army and navy who have committed offences and crimes are never sent to these civil prisons.

With all the care and thought the Japanese have bestowed upon this subject, there is still improvement to be made in the law courts. The extraordinary length of time that suspected persons are kept waiting for trial seems hardly in keeping with the otherwise humane treatment. It is not unusual for a prisoner to be detained six months, or even longer, before being brought to trial. It was late when we returned, and we had only just time to fulfil

our engagement which had been made some days ago to attend a meeting of the Red Cross Society in the afternoon. This was my first formal introduction to the members of this and the Ladies' Volunteer Nursing Association. The Marchioness Nabéshima, as president of the latter, met us with Marchioness Oyama and Baroness Sannomiya. Before attending the meeting we were conducted over the society's storehouse, which was a revelation, containing everything that thought and care could suggest for the sick and wounded. Panniers and surgical appliances were almost identical with those I had seen at the military hospital; the same practical method being observed, that of making everything as light and portable as possible. The society holds itself in readiness to provide doctors and nurses with all the equipment necessary to meet the greatest emergencies, but at the present moment they are doubly prepared for any demand the War Office may make, and could, if necessary, take the place of the Army Medical Corps throughout the country, thus leaving the service free to answer the most urgent call from the seat of war. The wisdom and forethought of placing the Red Cross Society under the complete control of the Government is shown by the above. By these means a vast body of men are "under-studies" to the Army medical service; so, when called upon to work in the ordinary military hospitals, they

are fully acquainted with the rules and regulations of the service. It would not be inappropriate to call this perfectly organised and well-equipped "Red Cross Society's Relief Corps" the Army Medical Reserve. Doctors belonging to the society have a small annual retaining fee in time of peace; on active service they receive full and adequate remuneration. Just before entering the lecture hall, the Baroness Sannomiya asked me to address the meeting, to explain the object of my mission. The Marchioness Oyama, who speaks the most perfect English, kindly interpreted. As we entered and took the places allotted to us the hall seemed crowded. Four of the Royal Princesses were present, Princess Fushimi, Princess Higashi, Princess Fushimi Fushimi and Princess Nashimoto (the latter the daughter of the Marchioness Nabéshima), all of whom were sitting a little apart, but dressed in the regulation uniform of the Ladies' Volunteer Nursing Association, the reason for this being that all members when attending the meetings should be dressed alike, the Princesses making no exception. By this regulation those who join are placed on an equal footing. Non-members were attired in their national dress, and a very charming assemblage they were to look upon. The Baroness at once presented me to the audience, whereupon they bowed, and in a few words I explained the

object of my mission, at the same time pointing out that I had come to learn, and not to teach. I purposely took this as my text, so to speak, as I had more than once felt surprised at the supercilious and arrogant spirit which foreigners were adopting towards these marvellously clever people. Later we were presented to the Princesses; Princess Nashimoto was quite lovely. Adjourning to the garden, where classes for bandaging were being held, we saw the members busily at work practising on human figures. The Princesses also took part, but for them a lay figure was provided. It was intensely interesting and curious watching these Japanese women so intent on learning "How to become a Nurse." Those in the nursing uniform, it must be admitted, did not look their best, as the uniform is very unbecoming. A black alpaca bodice and skirt, turned-down collars and cuffs, black bonnet with high back, and bright blue ribbon bow with white rosette in the centre, is a trying costume. At first it was difficult to persuade the members throughout the country to adopt it. The following story will show why there was some objection to the wearing of European clothes :—

An order was issued by the association that "all members must wear uniform when attending meetings or public functions." The ladies from remote country districts ordered a complete uniform from Tokio. The first

occasion on which they donned it happened to be a large public function some long way off, and it was noticed that many seemed very uneasy and far from happy in their newly-acquired costume, and at the end of the day they confided to an Englishwoman how uncomfortable they thought these clothes were. On making enquiry, she discovered that these poor little people had just cause for complaint, for the uniform had been sent, but no underclothes; and, owing to their wearing only a long straight piece of linen under their kimono, it had not been possible to make use of it with a bodice and skirt. Concluding that this was our method of dressing they had quietly submitted, and in consequence suffered agonies from the hooks and eyes and " buttony things."

Lectures on nursing and bandaging are held here twice a month, and have to be attended for two years; at the end of which time an examination is held, and if the candidate passes, she becomes a full member of the Ladies' Volunteer Nursing Association In times of great national calamity, this association materially supports and aids the Red Cross Society, and acts in a modified form as a nursing reserve to the army nursing service. When war breaks out they are called upon to perform the duties of probationers in the reserve or base hospitals under the army nurse; not that the army nursing service is scantily supplied, having over 3,000

fully-trained nurses of its own, as I have already mentioned. During the China and Japan war, this system was found to work exceedingly well, for it must be remembered that this association is controlled by the Red Cross Society, which is in complete submission to army regulations. One of the senior doctors presented us each with a nursing manual, written and signed by himself. Before leaving, we were personally introduced to many of the members, but conversation was impossible, as few could speak English. Many of those present wore decorations, but I cannot yet attempt to understand what they denote. I was surprised to see there was so little restraint placed upon women; for they practically enjoy the same freedom as Europeans, and there is no doubt they are endeavouring to become practical and useful members of society.

Saturday, May 14th. Tokio.

It was arranged that we should visit the University Hospital and see an operation this morning. Soft rain was coming down as we drove along. I thought this dull, grey weather rather suited Tokio. It was picturesque to see the coolies in their straw mackintoshes, like huge porcupines, splashing through the mud. The coloured umbrellas carried by men and women are always fascinating; also the "click-click" of the wooden

geta (worn high in rainy weather, so as to keep the kimono out of the dirt). But this sound is growing very familiar, as rain is constantly falling at this season of the year; but, no matter what the weather may be, the streets always look picturesque. At 12.30 we arrived at the hospital, which is the great civil training school for students and nurses. The building itself is not particularly attractive, though clean, and in good order; but the work done here is enormous, and the out-patient department was thronged with men, women, and children (a little confusion as to separation, but the Japanese think nothing of this—indeed, they consider us prudish over such matters) and in passing we saw many a sad case. One thing I particularly noticed: that, though the place was crowded, there was not the slightest smell such as one would expect to find in a busy out-patient department. Certainly to call the lower classes of Japan "the great unwashed" would be a misnomer, for a cleaner people do not exist. The custom of leaving their sandals outside is particularly excellent when entering a hospital, and I only wish it could be introduced on visiting days in ours; but instead of asking English men and women to take off their boots, one might give them over-shoes to put on before entering the wards, such as we had provided for us to-day. The nurses looked neat and trim, but not of

quite the same class as the army nurse. Their training, however, is as good, and no certificate is given under three years. Though this hospital is such an important training school there are very few quite free cases admitted, for it is divided into first, second, and third classes; the third class patients pay only a trifling sum, and are placed in large, airy wards, into which bedsteads have been introduced. At first it was with some difficulty the poorer patients were persuaded to try them, but as the doctors consider it far more healthy than sleeping on the floor they persevered. The wards appeared empty, for there were no long tables down the centre, laden with plants and flowers, such as we are accustomed to see at home; yet there was no look of desolation or discomfort. The whole atmosphere was one of cheerfulness, and the nurses looked very happy and busy, engaged in their duties. The first and second class patients have more luxurious accommodation, being placed in separate rooms, which, in spite of the lack of much furniture, looked bright and comfortable. After visiting the wards we were taken to see the theatres; everything was exquisitely clean and up to date, but I noticed there was very little use of polished metal. Wherever it was possible, white painted iron-work took its place, and glass tables and shelves were freely used. As it had been arranged for me to see Dr. Sato,

their great surgeon, operate, we sat with the students in the large theatre, who numbered about sixty, most of whom wore glasses. During the lecture which followed I remarked that they took down their notes in German. The lecture finished, the patient who had been the subject of demonstration was wheeled out into an ante-room to be anæsthetised. Meanwhile, four nurses were busy finishing their preparations, which, when completed, left nothing to be desired. They moved about in the quickest and quietest way possible, in spite of their high wooden *geta* or pattens, and touched everything they were preparing as little as possible with their hands, using instead long forceps in the most surprisingly dexterous manner. The dressings and towels were in tins, which opened from the ground by placing the foot on a pedal or lever. It is not necessary here to give minute details of the operation, but only to say it was found impossible for the patient to take an anæsthetic, therefore though "major," it had to be performed under a local one, and from time to time Dr. Sato turned to the patient, saying a few reassuring words. The greatest delicacy of thought for the feelings of the patient in these trying circumstances was manifest, and I left the theatre deeply impressed with all I had seen, at the same time full of admiration for these gentle little Japanese nurses, from whom we have so much to learn.

Madame Kuroda, whom I begged not to attend, as she had never seen an operation, insisted on doing so, and showed the most wonderful self-control. In the evening, Lady MacDonald gave a dinner-party, which included many notable people; particularly interesting to us were the Marquis and Marchioness Nabéshima, Marquis and Marchioness Oyàma, and Baron and Baroness Sannomiya. The Prime Minister, Count Katsura, who was also present, expressed much pleasure that his Government had been able to grant my request to see the organisation of their military hospitals, and he felt sure I should receive a warm welcome from the army at the front. Baron Sannomiya took me into dinner, and on my other side sat Sir William Nicholson; the men present wore their numerous decorations. Apart from the delightful and amusing evening, it was of extraordinary interest to meet these high Japanese officials and their wives, and to note the grace and ease with which they have adapted themselves to our European etiquette. Several of the Japanese ladies wore demure but very charming costumes. How curious custom is! These women cannot understand Europeans, whom they consider fastidious to prudishness, appearing in décolleté dress; yet I have seen the daintiest little Japanese woman, sitting smoking a cigarette, with her feet stretched out in front of her, displaying at least three

distributing gifts with her own hands. The nurse who holds the position of matron has been here over eighteen years, and has adopted Christianity, most of the nurses following her example. Lectures are specially given on religious subjects for their benefit once a week. They all looked very smart in their uniforms, and it was easy to see they took the keenest interest in the appearance of the wards, and I must say it was very pleasant to pass through such a well-kept, cheerful, and up-to-date place. Dr. Takagi, before we left, offered to take us to see the tombs of the Shoguns. Under his guidance he felt sure we should see a great deal more than the ordinary visitor, as he has much to do with the management and keeping them in order. He lamented that money could not be spent on the restoration of these beautiful tombs (or temples), and various other public places of antiquity in which Japan abounds; but every idea of the kind has had to be put on one side, owing to the lengthy preparations for war. The old walls which enclosed these tombs gave the place a most sacred air. Beautiful old bronze and stone lanterns lined the pathway leading to these various shrines; several, it was sad to see, had been badly knocked about, the damage having been done during the last rebellion. There are seven shrines in all, but that of Shogun II. is considered one of the finest in the country, being built in octagon

form. The pillars which support it are of gold lacquer, studded with crystals, and over ten feet in circumference; the roof is magnificently carved. The altar is of red lacquer, while the steps leading to the tablet are black; all of this is in very good condition. Huge massive vases stand on either side, richly embossed with gold and silver, and all of great value, as they are perfect specimens of their finest art. Each tomb is enclosed in its own courtyard, thus keeping it distinctive, and as we passed from one to the other we had repeatedly to remove our shoes. These temples seem very fitting memorials to those mighty Shoguns; indeed, there was a solemn grandeur about them which spoke of the past, and we instinctively lowered our voices, as we threaded our way along, as in a consecrated building. The priest who took us round insisted on showing us the actual burying-place of Shogun V., which place was held so sacred in former days that Shogun VI. was not even allowed to enter. I had an interesting discussion with a Japanese as we walked round, studying these pagan temples, on the question of Christianity being accepted by the nation. Though it is most desirable that they should accept some form of Christian belief, they feel that ours does not sufficiently appeal to them to allow it to be embraced as the national religion, but nevertheless they are earnestly considering this momentous question.

Monday, May 16th. Tokio.

We are beginning to see beauties in the scenery of Tokio which we thought at first could not possibly exist. The moat surrounding the Palace is very impressive, the trees slanting and bending down the banks, reflected in the water, are truly beautiful, and make a very fitting setting to the Imperial residence. Madame Kuroda informed me that an elaborate outfit and preparations are being made for our sojourn at the front, all of which is very distressing, as the cost must be heavy to the Government. A professional cook and over thirty Chinamen, to say nothing of waggons and Chinese carrying-chairs, are being engaged, and I am also taking a private servant who can speak a little English. A business manager, whose duty it will be to keep the War Office informed of our movements, is included in this retinue. It is definitely fixed that we leave for the front on the 19th.

Tuesday, May 17th. Tokio.

We left the hotel at 8.30 a.m., and drove to the Penitentiary Prison, which is not so large or important as the Sugamo Prison, but quite as well conducted, and kept in the same cleanly and methodical manner. It is divided into blocks, one for men, the other for women; it has only been erected a short time, and has, therefore, all the modern

improvements. After giving me the plans, the Governor presented me with a bronze engraved medallion as a souvenir. It is always a painful sight to see women prisoners, but here it seemed doubly so; these little people looked so young and picturesque, not to say irresponsible—quite unsuited for such a lamentable position. Whilst waiting for their trial they are allowed to wear their pretty kimonos, and dress their hair in their own elaborate style; the waiting often extends over several months. Though many of these prisoners came from the lowest classes, there was nothing to denote it in their appearance, for they have no marks of degradation, and no brutality or coarseness showed in their faces; but the laughter and merriment so habitual to Japanese women had vanished, leaving only an expression of extreme sadness. The Governor informed me that the crimes were principally those of incendiarism and child-murder. Incredible as it seems of these apparently gentle little people, the greater proportion was of the latter. Much has been written and said about the morality or immorality of this country; but here is one of the sad proofs that the morality is not very high, for the convicts are not the officially recognised *demi-monde*, but the ordinary working or lower class, who, finding they have been deceived and ill-used by their husbands and lovers, take the law into their own hands.

Photo: K. Ogawa, Tokio, Japan.

MARCHIONESS OYAMA.

This increase of crime is supposed to be in a measure due to the freedom and greater liberty women are now allowed to enjoy. The terms of punishment are not carried out here, but while they are waiting they do a certain amount of sewing for the Government. Mothers are allowed to bring in their very young babies, but still these poor things get so bored; they pull out the coloured threads of their kimonos and make them into lucky charms, some of which were given to me. Next we saw the most painful of all prisoners—young and, in many cases, extremely pretty girls who have been carrying on their shocking and (unless licensed) unlawful "business," which is punishable by a severe term of imprisonment. So even here, in this non-Christian country, where women do not yet take a high position, it is considered unworthy to let this vice go unchecked; therefore powerful and systematic means are used to try to stem this degrading wave which sweeps through all countries. The question being considered so urgent, it was carefully legislated for. Surely the moral effect of this restraint must do good; in any case, it seems right that the Government should bravely face this overwhelming question, not leaving it, as in England, to amateur efforts and well-meaning "workers." When sentence has been passed, prisoners are put into terra-cotta kimonos, and for one month from date

of sentence are sent to the larger and more important prisons. The infirmary in this block is good, the sick being well looked after, but the whole scene impressed me deeply, and left a feeling of sadness; yet I was extremely glad to have had this opportunity of knowing that women are treated quite as well as the men, which might very well not be the case in a country where they take such a secondary position. The men's block I need not describe, as it was very much the same as the first prison I visited. We lunched with Madame Kuroda in true Japanese style. Her house had nothing western about it, and was a revelation of perfect colouring and harmony. Before luncheon we had tea served to us in the highest of Japanese custom, the "master of ceremonies" performing this important office. He was a most ecclesiastical-looking individual, and reminded one of a high priest performing some religious rite, for this ceremony is treated with the greatest unction. The caddy from which the tea was taken was hundreds of years old, and the red lacquer stand on which the little tea-bowls were handed to each of us in turn was a relic of bygone emperors. The luncheon was most elaborate, and the little dishes and bowls were of the oldest and finest china; but we did not enjoy over-much this strange food, and our hostess, having foreseen this, had provided cold fowl. On surveying the

remains of our meal, it looked as if there had been a doll's feast, for all the little dishes were spread around us on the floor; there is something particularly fascinating in having the food served in this dainty and piquant way. Before leaving, Mr. Taguchi, our business manager, called by appointment to see me. The side of the room noiselessly slid open, and he stood before us, dressed in European style—frock coat, white waistcoat, and pale grey trousers. Nevertheless, as he dropped on his knees, his head bowed to the ground, he looked a typical Japanese.

Thursday, May 19th.

The morning passed very quickly, as we were busy arranging to start on our long journey to Manchuria. In the afternoon we drove to the Maple Club and had tea; of this I need give no description, as everyone who visits Tokio describes it. Colonel and Mrs. MacPherson asked us to dinner, and at 8.45, accompanied by them, we started for Shimbashi Station, where we found Madame Kuroda and Taguchi awaiting us. So at last we had started for that most mysterious of all places, "the Front," but a whole week was to be spent at various towns *en route* for Ujina, Nagoya, Kioto, Osaka, and Hiroshima (all of which are important centres), so as to enable me to see the working of the Red Cross Society throughout this part of the country, and to

visit the important civil and military hospitals. At Ujina we shall embark for Manchuria on the ***Hakuai Maru,*** which, strangely enough, is the identical hospital ship we had seen at Moji.

CHAPTER II.

NAGOYA, KIOTO, OSAKA, AND HIROSHIMA.

Friday, May 20th. Nagoya.

OUR first night in the train was comfortable, in spite of the fact that there were no sleeping cars and the train stopped at every wayside station. In the dawn we had a beautiful view of the sacred mountain, Fujiyama, which looked lovely with its snow-crested top in the early morning light. We breakfasted from our luncheon-basket, for we could only procure Japanese food along the line. At 1.15 p.m. we arrived at Nagoya, longing for a substantial meal and a bath; but such hopes vanished in a twinkling, for before us on the platform was a large gathering of people to receive us—military officers, doctors, and representatives of the Red Cross and other societies, the Mayor and the Governor, and a large assemblage of ladies all in their smartest kimonos. On alighting, we were immediately taken to a station room prepared for our reception, and here formal introductions took place, first to the Marquis Tokugawa, who is the most important landowner in the province, then to the various officers and officials in rotation. With each

we exchanged visiting cards. Madame, of course, stood by my side to interpret. It was really a very trying ordeal, owing to the difficulty of language. Taguchi was much agitated and upset on discovering I had no medals on, as I was being officially received by the military, and a guest of the Minister of War; it could never have occurred to me to wear them, though I had been asked to take them with me. Then and there my bag was brought, and I had to fasten them on. Major Nakamura was introduced as the officer appointed to look after us during our stay in the town. He asked which I should prefer to do, to go direct to the hotel, or visit the military hospital. I chose the former, being conscious that we were very travel-stained; whereupon he immediately said the military would prefer my going to the hospital direct, as there was a carriage waiting. There was nothing for it but to comply with their wishes; so, tired and untidy, we stepped into the civic carriage, around which a crowd of people had collected, Madame Kuroda keeping up a plaintive refrain of "Please bow." We started at a slow pace, "runners" screaming and clearing the way as we drove through the narrow streets of the town. On reaching the hospital, we found officials and nurses drawn up on the steps to welcome us; but here we only bowed, passing on immediately into a room where tea was provided. An English

cake, ornamented with little silk Japanese national flags, was placed on the table; but before we could enjoy this many introductions had to take place. After the plans of the hospital had been given, we started on a tour of inspection, which lasted far into the afternoon. Our party numbered over thirty, Miss St. Aubyn and the Marquis Tokugawa bringing up the rear. This hospital was built on the hut system, well ventilated, scrupulously clean, and up to date. The nursing was carried out by the Red Cross military nurses, the orderlies having been sent to the front. It was 4 p.m. when we left for our hotel, where we were received with much enthusiasm, the proprietor having hung out the Union Jack and Japanese national flag over the entrance. The hotel was furnished in European style, and everything was very clean and most comfortable. The only things Japanese were the baths, which were like huge wooden washing-tubs, and new for us. On going down to dinner we were surprised to find our old friends of the *Manila*, Colonel and Mrs. Carré. During the evening we received several Japanese officers, and an English missionary and his wife; and as both the latter spoke Japanese fluently, they were of the greatest use in helping to interpret. To-day's reception scarcely accords with my wish to go quietly to the front, but as the programme is "official," it has to be carried out.

Saturday, May 21st. Nagoya.

We left the hotel at 8.30 a.m. to visit a private hospital belonging to Professor Kikigawa; Major Nakamura accompanied us. We were received by the professor, doctors, and nurses; and though it was only a little after nine o'clock, tea was handed round. The hospital was on the lines of a private hospital in England, only far ahead in most details. It was divided into three classes: first, second, and third. Everything looked cheerful and well-appointed; there were recreation rooms, including a billiard room, and attached to the hospital was a paying out-patients' department. I spoke to an American who had not long been operated on. She was enthusiastic over the treatment she was receiving, and she certainly looked happy and comfortable in her bright, airy room, which was full of flowers. We were then taken on to the roof to see the view; and the fine castle of Nagoya, which stood opposite the hospital, was most imposing. The beautiful golden dolphins, poised high on the roof, stood out strikingly against the sky. Before leaving we again drank tea, and after saying good-bye to the professor and his colleagues, took our departure. Our reception had been dignified, not to say solemn; but to end it by sitting on the doorstep tying on our shoes rather took away from what was intended to

be an imposing exit, for we had still to make many bows before stepping into our rikshas. Returning to the hotel, we had luncheon and packed our things, as we were leaving in the afternoon for Kioto. The official carriage was sent to take us to the station, and all those who had extended such a hearty welcome came again, and many more besides. The Marquis Tokugawa gracefully presented us with two of the little gold fans for which the town is celebrated, as well as large baskets of flowers. As the train left, we felt we were taking away a delightful remembrance of the hospitality shown to us here. The afternoon was fine, and, passing slowly along (the train only going about fifteen miles an hour), we had plenty of time to admire the scenery. When not looking out of the window we were interested in watching our fellow-passengers, who consisted of three Japanese—an officer, and a private individual (a merchant) and his pretty wife. A rather curious incident occurred as we were nearing a station, The merchant and his wife, suddenly kneeling upon the seat, lowered the window, and leaning out, vigorously clapped their hands. The explanation of this was that a shrine had been erected here to Hashiman (God of War), and they were praying that their army might be victorious. The whole scene was so simple and unostentatious that it was impossible to feel anything but admira-

tion and respect for this patriotic act of devotion. Returning to their seats, they continued their conversation as if nothing unusual had taken place. There was something of interest to be seen at every station, and we were much amused watching a little lady having her face painted and powdered by her attendant whilst waiting for the train. Really, the way in which the Japanese women paint is a charming art. The sign-boards on the platforms also afforded us amusement. They gave a great deal of information about the neighbourhood in indifferent English, but always ended with the same remark, "For further information apply to the station-master." At about 7 p.m. we had our first view of Lake Biwa, which looked beautiful in the evening light. As darkness came on the officer and merchant, who had been talking steadily all the afternoon, called for a lamp from the car boy, which they set in front of them on a box, the merchant wishing to tell the soldier his fortune, for he, like many of his class, was most superstitious, and had studied the occult subject, and the light from the lamp illumining their faces made a curious Rembrandt effect; the officer, with his strong face, short-cropped hair, and military overcoat of red and blue, thrown partially back displaying his medals, was a striking contrast to the cute, cunning face of the merchant, in his sombre grey kimono, rapidly turning

the leaves of his fortune-telling book. However, this picturesque scene was abruptly broken in upon by the entrance, at the station before Kioto, of a little man dressed in European fashion. Looking anxiously around, he addressed Madame Kuroda, who immediately got up, and with many bows introduced him as the representative of the Governor of Kioto, who had sent him. He at the same time mentioned there would be a deputation at the station. It was a relief to find this representative, Mr. Inagaki, spoke English. He welcomed us by presenting to us two guide-books of Kioto, prettily bound in silk. On alighting from the train we were met by the Governor and all the principal officials of the city, and, as at Nagoya, we were conducted to a specially prepared station-room, where numerous introductions took place, and the all-necessary ceremony of exchanging visiting cards was carried out. Having by this time almost grown accustomed to these receptions, I was able to note a few details. The men had all discarded their kimonos for European clothes, high hats, frock coats, and kid gloves being *de rigueur;* but surely there can only be one size of kid glove imported, and that without taking into consideration the smallness of the Japanese hand. Uniformly of a grey shade, and miles too long in the fingers, they flapped about, rendering their owners' hands useless. The ladies of the

Volunteer Nursing Association were all in their most delicately-coloured kimonos, and were quite the prettiest women I have yet seen; some of them struck me as lovely. The Governor's wife, Mrs. Ohmori, was introduced after all the men; but this is only one of the many instances of the way women take a secondary place. We then proceeded, bowing, down the long line of ladies who had come to meet us, all of which took some time; but at last we started, and crossed to the other side of the platform, where a big crowd had collected. A carriage was kindly provided for us, and we were driven to the Kioto Hotel, where rooms had been taken. It was late when we had dinner, for there were many people to see and much talking to be done. The head of the police immediately came to call; indeed, had we been princesses we could not have had more protection. Though we thought this reception very kind, and were deeply touched, it was nevertheless out of keeping with my original idea. Madame Kuroda and Taguchi we left drawing up with Mr. Inagaki (who was appointed to wait on us during our stay in Kioto) what they called an "official" programme, and there was such a sending of telephone messages, telegrams, and notes, that I thought Madame Kuroda would never be allowed her well-earned night's rest.

Sunday, May 22nd. Kioto.

Very early hours are habitual to the Japanese, therefore by 9 a.m. the carriage was waiting to take us to the Imperial Palace, for which special permission had been telegraphed for to Tokio. The beauties of Kioto, as seen in the daylight, were enchanting; and as we drove slowly about, they were apparent at every turn. I longed to be able to see it at my leisure, but had continually to remind myself that my visit to Japan was primarily one of usefulness. Passing through a fine park, we arrived at the Palace. High walls enclosed it, and we noticed five white lines were drawn round its entire length, which denoted imperial distinction. As we were expected, officials received and conducted us to a room, where at once the rarest of cold tea was served in choice bowls. First we were shown the "Shishin-den," or great Reception Hall, which is the Throne Room of the present Emperor. The Throne was draped in rich silk, and round the walls were the thirty-two famous paintings of the Chinese sages of the Middle Ages. This hall will always remain the Throne Room of future emperors, and it is very fitting, being so simple and yet so dignified in style and colouring. The Emperor's private apartments were all in the truest of Japanese taste; the panels of the walls and screens were marvellously designed with mythical

legends. The Empress's Palace, which is separate, but connected by corridors, was less elaborate and much smaller, but at the same time delightfully artistic, and I wished it were possible for foreigners first to see the Empress of Japan in such surroundings, instead of in the modern Palace at Tokio. A Japanese gardener has the mind both of poet and artist, and here he had displayed the utmost originality, for the gardens were tantalising in their beauty and old-world stateliness. Artificial lakes curved in and out of gently-sloping green banks, over which miniature bridges were thrown. Paths took the quaintest of turns; and rare trees, which bent and curved in the most fascinating of lines, helped to complete this fairyland. Within the Imperial precincts are the palaces of the illustrious Shoguns; in colouring and grandeur they far surpassed that of the emperors; magnificent costly splendour was everywhere to be felt. Many rooms were entirely painted in gold, with massive woodwork, whereon various legends were depicted in gorgeous colouring. Other rooms represented special subjects: one tigers, another lions, another birds, and so on; all of which were exquisitely designed on rich silken walls and screens. Thus all bore testimony to the magnificent pomp enjoyed by these mighty nobles. Even when they came to make their yearly obeisance to their Emperor it was not

put on one side. How powerful and dangerous they became to the monarchy in olden days is easily understood.

In the afternoon we attended a large meeting held in my honour at the Red Cross Society's offices. We drove up to the entrance of the hall amidst a crowd of spectators, the English and Japanese flags flying, and were received by the Governor, as president of the society here. Princess Murakumo, who was also present, extended to us a cordial welcome. She takes a leading part in the society, and devotes her life to good works, having become a Buddhist nun. To denote this she wore over her soft grey kimono black gauze, similar to that used by the priests. Her hair was cut quite short; but this is not an unusual custom in women over fifty. The Princess and myself were specially provided with two chairs for the occasion; a most elaborate tea was served on lacquer stands, including delicate sweetmeats, which represented the cherry blossom, the lotus and the lily, and seemed far too beautiful to eat. Her lady-in-waiting spoke good English, so through interpretation I was able to hear much about the society and the enormous preparations which were being carried out to meet the demands of war. The enthusiasm displayed was most extraordinary, the membership was increasing by leaps and bounds, and I could see how wisely every opportunity was seized

upon to keep up the public interest. On this particular occasion I believe the people had been told that the Queen of England wished to know details of the working of the Red Cross Society, therefore I had been allowed to investigate. Miss St. Aubyn and myself were each presented with baskets of flowers, tied with scarlet and white ribbons, from the members of the society. After numerous introductions, we were conducted over the society's "go-down," or warehouse, where everything is kept in readiness, as at Tokio; only, if anything, it was more complete, not the minutest detail being overlooked. Even the fan so necessary to a Japanese man was not forgotten; it was specially designed in scarlet, with the words "Red Cross Society" on one side, and "Courage" on the other. I was particularly interested in watching the packing of blankets for the front; the method was so simple and yet ingenious. The blankets, which were really of good quality, were white, stamped with the Red Cross. After careful folding, twenty-five were placed under very heavy pressure, which was so great as to reduce them to a comparatively small compass; oil paper was immediately wrapped round, and an outer cover of hessian was laced on. By this means the packets were air-tight, water-proof, and light and easy for transport. Then followed a lecture in their fine hall (built for the purpose), where they

Photo: M. S. Hori, Kioto.

THE KIOTO BRANCH OF THE LADIES' VOLUNTEER NURSING ASSOCIATION MAKING BANDAGES.

hold meetings, classes, and entertainments, for a feature of the society's work is their constant entertaining of the members throughout the country by means of interesting magic-lantern slides, so demonstrating the practical outcome of the society's work. Before leaving, I was given a large photograph of the members making bandages. After making our adieux we drove to the famous Buddhist temple, which it had been previously arranged we should visit. The daughter-in-law of the high priest, who was very shy, but extremely pretty, welcomed us; six priests were waiting to show us round. The etiquette was very formal, not to say embarrassing. The waiting-maid in attendance on the little lady literally crawled about on her hands and knees. After drinking tea we were conducted round. The temple, though modern, is very beautiful, and the priests, wishing to show us every courtesy, allowed us to walk in and out of the various altars. The gold lacquer and workmanship was very elaborate; the sum expended on the decorations must have been enormous. A huge black rope, coiled several feet high, excited our curiosity, and we were informed it was entirely made from human hair; the women of the country had cut off their long tresses, and had them woven into a gigantic rope to enable the massive beams to be hauled up. The rope is now kept as a proud memento. The priests then took us to see some famous

gardens belonging to the temple, which were exceedingly quaint and old; there is a never-tiring fascination in crossing the numerous little bridges which abound in Japanese gardens. Before leaving the grounds, we were taken to call on a connection of the high priest, and were received in the garden by a most elaborately dressed girl of about seventeen. Her hair was marvellously erected with a tiny pink rosette at one side, which harmonised well with her pale mauve silk crêpe kimono. Her face, most delicately painted, was lovely. She looked so ethereal and fragile as she stood bowing that it was difficult to realise she was really treading "life's rough way." She was attended by her maid, and picturesque and interesting it was to see this type of frivolous little person, seldom to be met with in ordinary circumstances, not being permitted to mix freely with the outside world. Her father, a nobleman, had evidently not embraced modern ideas. Girls brought up on these narrow lines are fast disappearing from Japan, and in a few years will cease to exist, as Western education is now becoming universal for women. That the Empress recognises the necessity of training her noblemen's daughters to take their share of responsible duty in life is clearly shown by her founding the "Peeresses' School" in Tokio. Her far-seeing wisdom will do more for the advancement of

her country than she herself can yet possibly realise.

In the evening it was arranged that we should visit the theatre, so about 8.30 p.m. we left the hotel with Madame Kuroda and our indefatigable guide, Mr. Inagaki. Being anxious to see the town lit with the numerous lanterns, we walked, and were duly rewarded, for the effect was charming. Kioto is a dream by night or day—essentially Japanese, for few Europeans live in it, and it still retains much of the dignity of having once been the capital. As we were expected, arrangements had been made. A place was set apart in the gallery, screened off, and chairs placed. It was a little distressing, however, to find ourselves in such a prominent position, raised high when everyone else was sitting on the ground. The piece, "The Death of Commander Hirosé," had already been steadily going on for six hours, but the dramatic part had yet to come. The circumstances of his tragic death appeal to the poorer class particularly, and the unique distinction of being buried twice is an endless source of interest. The proprietor of the theatre was good enough to send an interpreter, who sat close behind us; but for some time it was impossible to give our full attention to the piece, our surroundings were so novel. The floor of the theatre, which was raised so as to be nearly on a level with the stage, was divided into numbers of little

pens, which were supposed to hold four persons, but occasionally six fitted in. Everyone was eating, drinking, smoking, and even cooking over their charcoal braziers. I suppose it was quite necessary, as many of the audience had been in the house since early afternoon, for it was very crowded, owing to the subject being so popular. The upper classes do not go to the theatre unless the play is given to support some charity; therefore the people we saw before us were from the middle and lower classes. The scenery was childish in the extreme, and would not have been used in a village school-house at home. One of the scenes was particularly amusing, the admiral holding a consultation of war on his ship. All the officers arrived in full dress and decorations, putting on a tremendous amount of side, the dignity of which was quite lost by the grotesque make-up of their faces and the incongruity of their footgear. Most of them wore black beards of a very scrubby description, mounted on wire, hooked over the ear, and every time they uttered a word these beards shot out from their faces. Carpet slippers of the brightest hue, and elastic side-boots into which they tucked their trousers, completed their get-up. They thought to be very western by consuming much whiskey, pledging each other's health in long draughts. Bottle after bottle disappeared with great rapidity, and if they

had really been drinking at this rate they must inevitably have been on the floor. Yet some of the acting was exceedingly fine, especially that of a man who took a woman's part; and it was not till nearly the end that we discovered his impersonation. But there was much to tickle the sense of the ludicrous; when, for instance, they wished to be very dramatic, a whole company of soldiers would pursue a Russian, wildly brandishing their arms, down the centre of the theatre, disappearing through a doorway only to return a moment later to resume their original parts. We stayed for some time, but as we saw no chance of the piece finishing till midnight, we left, being very tired after our day's exertions, but glad to have had the opportunity of seeing this style of theatre, for when the war is over it is hoped to bring in the European playhouse. The night was beautiful, so we walked back, to find the shops still open. These people seem to do with very little sleep; they rarely shut up their houses until midnight, and are at work the next day by 5 a.m.

Monday, May 23rd. Kioto.

This morning we had to fulfil our appointment at the University Hospital, which is a branch of the one at Tokio; and as we drove up to the entrance we received a kindly welcome from the entire staff. We spent a most interesting and pleasant morning going over

it. This hospital is practically new, and very much more attractive than the one at Tokio. It contains beds for over 300 patients, and is divided into first, second, and third classes, as well as receiving "charity" patients and 500 out-patients daily. The wards were bright and airy, and had a much more finished appearance; European furniture was in use, and the bedsteads were high. The appliances I saw were practical and neat in the extreme; indeed, this hospital was the most complete I had yet visited. The Japanese understand the great importance of serving sick people with food in a dainty and appetising manner; their little bowls and dishes are very suitable for this purpose. I wish we could take a few hints on this subject, but I am afraid the generality of English people will never understand the necessity of serving the sick in this delicate manner. A housewife in the lower class usually gauges an invalid's appetite by half the amount she is accustomed to see eaten when in good health; therefore a whole mutton chop or half a pound of rump steak is not considered out of the way. I venture to think that nurses in our hospitals are not sufficiently taught the importance of serving food in an appetising and dainty manner. It was a delight and a lesson to see these little trays being taken to the various patients. The nurses looked very business-like in their quaint adaptation of European

uniform, which is really a most sensible one. Each nurse had a tiny line of colour in her cap to show the ward she was working in. They one and all looked so neat—the type of woman one would like to have near one in illness. Such a thing as a fringe, or a cap worn at a fancy angle, would have been abhorrent to them. Their manner was all gentleness and happiness, but at the same time most decorous; and again I noticed how swiftly and quietly they moved about their work. I was more than sorry when we had finished our visit. In the afternoon the Governor had very kindly arranged a special performance of fencing and wrestling at the gymnasium. Women here take part in the former, and I was told that in olden times a woman's trousseau was not complete without the *yari*, or long spear. The hall in which the entertainment took place was a fine building. The floor was softly padded, because, I suppose, the performers have bare feet. The women who fenced wore a curious body-shield and mask, and short pleated skirt. On commencing the attack they uttered a piercing yell, which added much to the excitement. When they challenged the men they more often than not came off victorious. The whole exhibition was exceedingly spirited and thrilling. One of the professor's daughters had taken up fencing as a profession, as she had the misfortune to be born deaf, so this

seemed a suitable opening; she was extraordinarily skilful, and nimble as a squirrel. Next followed some very fine wrestling, and we had the good fortune to see one of the five famous wrestlers of Japan. It was even more exciting than the fencing. The professor, seeing how much we enjoyed it, offered to give us a short repetition, to which we gladly agreed. The Governor and his wife had certainly done all in their power to make us enjoy our stay in their delightful city, and it was with many regrets we thought of our departure in the evening. After the performance we drove to the Yaami Hotel, and on the way bought some excellent coloured photographs. Here again we have something to learn from the Japanese, for they have taught their quite young children the real art of colouring photographs, so as to redeem it from what we Europeans know as an extremely inartistic and vulgar trade. We were sorry to say good-bye to these most hospitable people, who had assembled in large numbers at the station to bid us farewell. We arrived at Osaka about 9 p.m., and our reception was no less hearty here than at Kioto, for a large assemblage was waiting to receive us, including the general of the garrison and his staff, the heads of the city, and various officials belonging to the different societies. Late as the hour was, the usual introductions had to take place, but it was extremely kind of so

many people to welcome us. As we drove through the streets in an open carriage which had been provided, Osaka looked very pretty; the river and canals running through the city added greatly to its charm. Lieutenant Ogura was appointed by the General to attend us during our stay. It was late before final arrangements were made for the morrow.

Tuesday, May 24th. Osaka.

Our visit to the famous old castle, now used by the garrison, took place this morning. We were warmly received by the officers, some of whom could speak a little English. Madame Kuroda interpreted for the general. He was a very tall man for a Japanese, and of a most soldierly appearance. All the other officers looked very spruce and smart, and in spite of their not being able to talk a great deal of English, we kept up a lively conversation, their charming, simple manners making it quite easy. We were taken to the ramparts of the castle, and had a fine view of the city, afterwards visiting two old wells known as the "Gold and Silver Wells." The former in olden times was only used by the great and powerful nobles, and was supposed to cure every ill. The stones with which this castle is built are of so gigantic a size that it is a question of much speculation as to how they were ever conveyed here, as they are said to have been collected from all over Japan.

Owing to heavy rain we had to return to the castle, and could not hear the garrison band out of doors, as was originally intended; but the general had arranged for it to play on the verandah of the room in which we were being entertained. It proved to be excellent, and to our surprise they struck up our National Anthen. The officers immediately stood at attention. It was a strange experience for us two Englishwomen to be standing in a Japanese mess listening to "God Save the King," but we were very much pleased and touched, as it was such a graceful thought on their part. Then followed their own anthem, which was very musical, solemn, and dignified, and at the end of this the officers all bowed low. Wine and sweetmeats were brought in, and they drank our health. The general told us many interesting little anecdotes, but one, I think, illustrates strikingly the patriotic devotion of the officers throughout the army. They are sending their gold watches and jewellery to the Mint to be held in reserve, in case the necessity arises for further money to carry on the war. The general himself was only wearing a silver watch. In the afternoon we visited another hospital, which was on the same plan as the former Government hospitals. There is an air of smartness and neatness throughout which is not to be found to quite the same extent in the civil ones, and this hospital was no

exception. I was rather astonished to find all the patients in bed, no matter how slight their complaint; but on enquiry I found it was due to our visit. There were a few medical cases from the front, otherwise nothing of much interest; but the number of men suffering from accidents through tending horses was quite abnormal. The larger proportion of cases were bites on the arms and hands. I think it is owing to the fact that the men do not know how to manage horses. They own that the Chinese are much more skilful. From here we drove to the museum to see some old lacquer work and curios. Many of the articles were for sale, and I bought a Japanese medicine-chest, which the principal of the museum guaranteed to be over fifty years old. They are the most fascinating little toys, and as they are no longer the fashion are quite difficult to procure.

Wednesday, May 25th. Osaka.

This morning I visited a private hospital by private request. Madame Kuroda and Lieutenant Ogura accompanied me. I thought it was dreadfully tedious for this poor young officer to have to go round these various hospitals; but he seemed to take it all in good part, and I afforded him some little amusement by trying to eat cream cakes with chopsticks, which proved an absolute failure. The hospital was small but good. The nurses were all thoroughly trained, and

after they leave a hospital like this are very well suited to take up private nursing, which is extraordinarily well-regulated throughout the country. Before a woman can start private nursing on her own account, she must report herself to the town authorities in the district she intends to nurse in, stating where she has been trained, and her qualifications. The authorities then ratify her papers, and if they prove to be thoroughly satisfactory, she is granted a licence to nurse in that particular district. At present no nurses' co-operations have been formed. Driving about from place to place, we noticed a very striking difference between this city and Kioto. Here everything looked active and busy, and, if possible to imagine such a thing, it resembled a Japanese Manchester; but the tall chimneys of the factories seemed hardly in keeping with this large, clean, bright-looking town, and it is difficult to associate grim factory life with what is sometimes called the "Venice of Japan." We were obliged to dine early, as we were leaving for Hiroshima by the 10.30 p.m. train; but before starting we were to see some very famous dancing, which took place at a tea-house a long way off. This small theatre was much the same in design as the one we saw at Kioto. The performance was not quite of the ordinary kind, for it had been arranged to give us a special one. Everything had

been provided for our comfort in the way of chairs, flowers, and "geishas," but I am doubtful whether these latter do prove a comfort, especially when the evening is hot, and they insist on holding your hand; but still, they are very winning and dainty. I wish, however, that the future of these little people did not present itself to one's thoughts, so as to detract from the amusement of their society, though being a "geisha" does not necessarily mean anything more than a frivolous, giddy little person, set to amuse guests; yet it seems a very perilous position, and extremely like playing with fire. As we entered, the orchestra commenced to "wail"; the wildest flight of imagination could not designate it as music. Twelve girls, six of whom were raised high above the audience each side of the stage, played what they believed to be music, but what really was a series of noises, which might be said to resemble the dying groans of the "jabberwock." On the curtain being pulled aside some exquisite scenery was revealed, "Kaimeido" in the height of its floral loveliness being represented. The dresses and colouring were beyond words, the dancing—or rather posing, for their dancing is nothing but falling into graceful attitudes, such as could never be possible to the figure of a European —was *ravissante*. Then followed a little farce in dumb show, and I give the title as trans-

lated to me: "Fishing for Women." This was literally carried out, the hero lowering a fishing-rod and bringing to view the most hideous old crone possible. Just at the close of the performance they let down several little Union Jack flags intertwined with their own. We then had to make a hurried departure to catch our train, many officers and doctors kindly came to see us off, though the hour was late. We were sorry to say good-bye. I must say the Japanese have the prettiest way of speeding the parting guest.

Thursday, May 26th. Hiroshima.

I was briskly awakened before 6 a.m. by Madame Kuroda, who was most agitated, for there had been at several of the stations during the night deputations of welcome, and one was so large that she felt obliged to interview the people herself, and explain that had I known I was to receive these kindly greetings I should, of course, have sat up all night. Still, through the morning, deputations were waiting at various stations, and visiting cards came in packets; it was very difficult standing on the footboard of the train to acknowledge properly these many expressions of greeting. At one place I thought it particularly kind of the village schoolmaster to bring down his entire school of boys and girls.

We had only a few minutes to spare, and

as the train was starting the children gave three hearty cries of "Banzai." I took a photograph of a wayside dining-room provided by the Red Cross Society for soldiers, which was simply an enormous wooden shed where meals were being served; but it is one of the society's many useful organisations to undertake to see the troops are properly fed on their way to embarkation. The country we passed through during the morning was very charming, a series of pictures quite lovely following quickly one upon another. Not only were there the chains of small mountains covered with trees of every description, the light foliage of the bamboo giving a particularly soft appearance, but also beautiful glimpses of the inland sea with vegetation running down to the water's edge, and here and there was a quaint little fishing village, to which the sunlight gave a touch of warmth. This scenery is not in the least grand, but winning and attractive, and seems to account for the delicacy depicted in Japanese art. The morning slipped away so quickly that we were surprised to find ourselves at Hiroshima, though we were not sorry to have arrived at the end of our railway travelling. We were met by the Governor, the Mayor, and the surgeon-general, also several military officials, one representing General Manabé, commandant of the district. The ladies of the Red Cross Society and Volunteer Nursing Asso-

ciation were there in great numbers. After the usual interchanging of visiting cards and other formalities we left the station and stepped into rikshas, which had been specially provided for our use during our stay here. The procession formed was a long one, two officers going in front, then myself, followed by the rest of our party. Down these long streets we were constantly stopped by detachments of soldiers, and waggon after waggon loaded with military stores. Here was the first real sign we had that this nation was at war; and as we drew on one side to allow a large number of wounded in rikshas to pass, we had the sad evidence further brought home to us. They were the first wounded I had seen since I had left Africa, and it brought back very vividly the suffering our brave soldiers had endured. They had just been landed at Ujina, and were on their way to the military hospital. It took us nearly an hour before we reached our destination, a Japanese hotel, the whole of which had been taken by the authorities for us, and the most lavish arrangements made for our comfort, which really at such a time was distressing. As far as possible the rooms had been changed to meet our European ideas, but the furniture looked terribly out of place in this purely Japanese hotel. As we stepped out into the long verandah running the full length of the house, we could have dropped a line into the

river below, which was very broad, and from where we stood we could see three bridges spanning it. On the opposite bank were tea-houses and various private dwellings, the former gaily decorated with many Japanese lanterns. This view was delightful, and it is a charming sensation, being able to open the whole side of one's room on to the verandah; but before we were at liberty to enjoy our picturesque surroundings there were many visitors to be seen. General Manabé was the first to call. His face and figure reminded one of pictures of Napoleon. He was in uniform, and looked very smart and soldierly in his richly-braided coat, which literally shone with decorations, but it was hardly in keeping to see this very dapper, dignified general sitting conversing in his stockinged feet; but such is the custom, for, like ourselves, he had left his boots at the entrance of the hotel. Though he could speak no English, he talked incessantly, and Madame Kuroda had as much as she could do to interpret. His laugh was extraordinarily merry; he entered into a joke thoroughly, and he did not disguise the fact that he was amused at our wanting to go to the front. Leaving us with many bows, he promised to meet us to-morrow morning at the military hospital. Immediately after, the Governor and Surgeon-General Fugita called, neither of whom could speak English; but their charm of manner made up for this,

and the Governor left us, saying his steam-launch should take us to-morrow to the Island of Miyajima after we had visited the hospital. Last but not least of the officials, came the head of the police, offering us every protection, not that we for one moment thought we should require it. Then followed an English missionary; she knew the Japanese language perfectly, as she had been in the country many years. Before leaving, she offered me a packet of gospels and good books in Japanese to take to the front. I hesitated at first in accepting them, but knowing it was well-meant, I did not like to refuse, but felt placed in rather an awkward position, as I was reluctant to appear to be taking advantage of my going amongst the troops. It seemed a little tactless to expect that I should distribute tracts amongst a people for whom I have the deepest respect, knowing they did not look upon Christianity in a favourable light. Surely some kind but restraining hand should be placed on these well-meaning missionaries, for the Japanese are too polite to show any open resentment; but in the short time I have had the privilege of knowing them, it has been easy to discover that they are intensely sensitive and proud on this subject, and will not be coerced into accepting a religion which fails to attract and satisfy them. The story of the Redemption, dreadful as it must sound, rather appals than appeals

Photo: K. Miyashita.

GENERAL MANABÉ.

to them as a nation. Missionaries should be warned on coming out that they are not preaching to the "heathen" in the ordinary acceptation of the word, but have to face a people of an intellect equal to their own—a deeply-thinking people, who are earnestly considering the question, and will in time, no doubt, adapt unto themselves a religion which will meet and satisfy their needs. The lines on which they conduct their prisons and hospitals embody the first principle of Christianity—that of charity. To illustrate what I mean by want of tact, I may relate the following incident, which took place before me only a short time previously. Madame Kuroda was talking to a missionary when the latter suddenly asked her if she were married. "Oh yes, and have two little boys." "Then you are a Christian?" Receiving an answer in the negative, the missionary said in a severe tone, "Then you are not truly married." Madame did not deign to answer, and I was not in a position to express my opinion, but I felt most indignant, knowing some of the good, useful work she had been trying to do in Tokio. Later on in the evening a packet arrived containing some very nicely-bound New Testaments, several copies of Lord Roberts's "Prayer for Soldiers," and "The Story of Florence Nightingale," all in Japanese.

Friday, May 27th. Hiroshima.

At 8.30 a.m. one of the doctors called to escort us to the military hospital. We were received by General Manabé, Surgeon-General Fugita, and staff. Before visiting the wards the plans were given me. This hospital is the principal military one in the country, and corresponds to Netley; it is within easy distance of the important port of Ujina. In peace time it accommodates 500 patients, but during this war additional temporary blocks have been in course of construction, which will bring the number up to 7,000. The hospital was thoroughly equipped, and the same bright, comfortable look which characterises all the military ones I have visited was even more apparent here. There were few orderlies to be seen, owing to the fact that they had been sent to the front; but those I saw in the "dressing-rooms" were in white caps and overalls, which looked most business-like. As the morning was very fine, many of the patients were sitting about in their white hospital kimonos in the large grounds, enjoying the quiet and rest. We spoke to several of the officers, all of whom seemed only to have one wish—that of returning to the front. We next crossed to inspect the temporary buildings, which were really astonishing. Block after block of splendidly roomy and well-ventilated wards had been erected

Photo: H. F. Satow, Tokio, Japan.

THE HOSPITAL SHIP *HAKUAI MARU.*

in timber. Each ward contained fifty wooden cots, and water and electric light were laid on. These blocks were most ingeniously planned, and could be erected ready for use in forty-eight hours, owing to the forethought of the authorities, who, in anticipation of the great demand, ordered timber to be kept in readiness. This was not the only evidence of the preparations made by the Government, for they were apparent at every turn. From the hospital we went direct to the station *en route* for Miyajima, as we had to go a short way by train before embarking on the launch. To our surprise, and rather to our disappointment, we were not to take our trip quietly, Taguchi, two policemen, and two men-servants from the hotel, accompanying us. It was only a short run in the launch before we reached Miyajima, which is known as the "Temple, or Happy Island," for here no one is supposed to die or be buried. It certainly gives one the impression of being most peaceful and tranquil, and its beauty is unique. We lunched under some large trees on a sloping bank running down to the water's edge, and from time to time the tame deer came so close as to feed out of our hands. It was delightful to feel ourselves so free from all forms and ceremonies, of which we seem to have had so much lately, but we were not really alone, for a little way off sat one of our policemen, and when we started to climb

the mountain later in the afternoon he felt it his duty to accompany us. We failed in our attempt to reach the top, as the weather was too hot to allow of much effort. Climbing slowly up, we passed several pilgrims descending, for at the summit of this mountain is a shrine to which they make pilgrimages. Halfway up we saw " Jizo," the " God of Children," with pathetic toys and bibs hanging round his neck, surrounded by piled-up heaps of stones, for the mothers believe that by carrying these tokens they will save their little ones whom they have lost all further toiling in the next world. Before leaving the island we visited the historic hall of " Sengo Kaku," which was built over four hundred years ago by Taikou, as a hall where warriors, before going to battle, could leave written petitions to the God of War that they might be victorious. This ceremony is still continued, for while we were there we saw a great number of soldiers who had come over for this express purpose before starting for the front. The prayers are written on little shaped pieces of wood resembling a rice-spoon, and it is no exaggeration to say that there were many thousands hanging in this hall, and many more waiting to go up. It was strange but impressive to see this enormous building filled with these simple tokens of fervent patriotism, and to think that this custom had lasted over three hundred years. We

returned home by a rather different route, and had a most delightful run to Ujina in the launch, where we found our riksha boys awaiting us; and in half an hour we were back in our hotel. It seemed strange that we did not run over the children in the twilight, for everyone comes out and walks in the middle of the road, to enjoy the evening air; old men and women, down to children of four years, aimlessly wandered about with babies strapped on their backs. The charm about Ujina and Hiroshima is, that they are entirely free from European life. Colonel MacPherson, who had come from Tokio to inspect the hospital, called during the evening; he had also been over the hospital ship in which we were to sail, but had failed to discover from the captain where we were to land. This was amusing, for we had repeatedly asked the same question, without obtaining any answer. Everyone had been extraordinarily reticent on this subject, but extreme reserve and caution characterises every matter connected with Government, and the following incident may further explain what I mean: Two officers, travelling by train to Hiroshima, entered into conversation with an Englishman, who naturally asked if they were on their way to the front. Receiving no answer, he thought they had not understood, so repeated the question. The senior officer then, with much politeness, explained that they

were all under oath never to reveal their movements, adding, " This brother officer who is with me, and a great friend, has no idea of my destination, nor I of his."

CHAPTER III.

TO THE FRONT.

Saturday, May 28th. Hiroshima.

THE packing of our personal luggage was giving us a great deal of thought, for everything that was not an absolute necessity was to be left behind; in spite of Madame Kuroda's earnest entreaties that we should each take an evening dress, I remained obdurate, knowing the difficulties of transport, and therefore considering it our duty to take as little baggage as possible; moreover, an evening dress at the front seemed grotesquely out of place. At 10 a.m. our rikshas were at the door to convey us to Ujina, where we were to join the *Hakuai Maru*. General Manabé arrived a few minutes before we started, to say good-bye, and brought the news of the battle of Kinchau, which had been taken after sixteen hours of very severe fighting. Heavy rain had begun to fall, and the long ride to Ujina seemed rather dreary as our riksha boys splashed through the mud.

At last we had started for the front! Ever since March 18th, when we left Tilbury, we had been working our way slowly towards this destination, but now it seemed

almost an accomplished fact. On our way to the wharf we passed the staff office, where we stopped for a few minutes by request to say good-bye to the Governor's wife, who was waiting there to see us—a kindly act on her part, as the rain was very heavy, and Japanese ladies seldom venture out in bad weather, owing to the unfitness of their costume. The Governor and many officials accompanied us to the tender, and as soon as our luggage was put on we started for the hospital ship, which was lying about a quarter of a mile out. I was surprised and distressed to find as we stepped on board that a most formal reception had been prepared. In my excitement and eagerness at starting, I had forgotten we were not travelling as ordinary individuals; indeed, we were always having to remind ourselves of this fact. The captain, surrounded by his own and some military officers, all of whom were in full dress, welcomed us. Behind him stood twenty-two army nurses, including two matrons, and the ship's crew. This, indeed, made an impressive scene, but it was a great relief to hear the captain extend to us a greeting in perfect English. The solemnity of the bowing and formality of a Japanese reception is so silent and solemn as almost to overawe one with its dignity, and we have nothing at all to compare with it in England. During the afternoon the captain showed us all over the

ship, of which he was justly proud, and translated the word "Hakuai," which is most suitable, meaning "benevolence." The ship was painted white both inside and out, and the Red Cross was everywhere to be seen. All the surroundings were bright and cheerful, not to say dainty—ready for the patients whom they were to bring back from Manchuria and Korea. The officers' cabins were well arranged, and down the middle of the big saloon were two swinging cots for very severe cases. The accommodation for the men was good, but if there was a criticism to be made on this point, it was that the cots were too close together. Certainly it would not have been advisable if they were going to be taken a long sea-voyage, but the passage they were at present making is only supposed to take about sixty-eight hours (in these fast-going ships), so it was thought wiser to crowd the patients a little, rather than keep them waiting in unhealthy Chinese towns. They carry from two hundred to two hundred and fifty patients every voyage. The Red Cross Society owns two ships, though in times of peace they are hired by the Nippon Yusen Kaisha line, and used as passenger vessels, with the understanding that the society can have them whenever they require. The interior of the ship is fitted so that it can be made into a hospital in a little over forty-eight hours, and the build

of these ships lends itself splendidly to the purpose. But the army and navy are not dependent on the society's ships, for each service has two vessels of its own. The nurses had good quarters, and, including male attendants, they numbered forty-five. The head nurse, or matron, was a proud little woman, having seen a great deal of service, and the Empress had specially decorated her for her work in the China-Japan war. All the nurses were dressed in blue serge, made in the same style as the white, not nearly so becoming; but it is their outdoor uniform, and is not worn when attending the patients. The male portion of the medical staff consisted of two surgeons, an apothecary, twenty male attendants, and a business manager. The head surgeon, Dr. Iwai, was a distinguished man; his decorations were numerous, amongst them a Russian Order. Needless to say, he was not wearing it now.

Sunday, May 29th. Off Moji.

We called at Moji, and having a few hours to spare, went ashore, and here we learnt some details of the battle of Kinchau—how sixty-eight cannons had been captured by the Japanese, but with a terrible loss of life, the report being 3,000 killed and wounded. At first we were incredulous at this number, but it had not been intended we should hear it, the information having slipped out owing

PATIENTS EMBARKING ON LIGHTERS.

to a young officer wishing to show off his English. The light and apparently almost heartless way everyone discussed this appalling disaster surprised and horrified us; but we afterwards learnt they were only following out the principle of their early teaching—rigid self-control, which they carry to a painful extreme before foreigners. Even amongst themselves they never give way to their real emotions. For example, I met someone the other day who had been present at a feast given to celebrate the heroic death of an only son, a midshipman, who was killed at Port Arthur. The parents, instead of mourning openly, tried to hide their deeper feelings by showing to the world a spirit of rejoicing that their son had met with such a glorious death. Truly, patriotism has to sweep aside every other feeling with the Japanese. We visited the house where the famous treaty was signed between Li Hung Chang and the Marquis Ito, after which we returned to the ship, and once more started for our destination, which we had at last learnt was to be Riu-ang-po, and from there we were to go up the Yalu River in a lighter to Antong. These lighters are the only means by which the sick can be conveyed to the hospital ships, for it is impossible for big steamers to enter the river, owing to the danger of sand-banks. It was suggested in Tokio that I should visit the Russian prisoners at Matsuyama, and, if time permits,

I shall endeavour to do so on my return journey.

Monday, May 30th. The *Hakuai Maru.*

It was a glorious morning, but even the sunlight on the water could not redeem the ugliness of the Korean Sea, which is thick and yellow. So far we have seen nothing we could call attractive, for the coast-line of Korea is anything but pretty. During the morning the dispenser, who is an excellent photographer, asked leave to take some photographs of us with the nurses, to which, of course, we readily assented. To-morrow we are to land.

Tuesday, May 31st. The *Hakuai Maru.*

At 3 p.m. we arrived at the mouth of the Yalu River, having made a quick passage, due to good weather and no fog, which is unusual, as this is an extremely foggy coast. Being too late for the tide, it was decided we should not go up the Yalu until the early morning, and we learnt that Colonel Kakisaki and other officers sent from Antong to meet us would then escort us in a small steam-launch, the lighters being thought too rough for us. They all dined on board, and were most entertaining. Colonel Kakisaki was very apologetic about the dirt of Antong, and the way we should have to rough it; he also expressed his sorrow that there would be no carriage (which remark astonished

WITH THE JAPANESE NURSES ON THE *HAKUAI MARU*.

and caused me anxiety, as I had counted on all our formalities being at an end), but they had carrying chairs for our use. In the most unblushing way he talked of "bugs," and said he was afraid we should have to see them, although they had done their best to clean the only decent Chinese dwelling-house in the place. Sir Ian Hamilton and some of the other attachés had stayed there.

Wednesday, June 1st.

It was a very wet morning, and as the sea was rough it was a difficult matter to embark on the little launch which was to take us to Antong. But in spite of the downpour and the early hour, everyone had assembled on board to give us a hearty send-off. Though we had been on the ship such a short time, we left with feelings of regret for those who had shown us so much kindness. The saloon in the launch had been re-decorated for the occasion, but it was not built for tall people, and we caused much amusement by not being able to stand erect. As long as we were content to sit on the chairs (thoughtfully provided) we were quite safe; but on standing up our heads came in contact with the ceiling, so when we wished to get to the entrance we had to drop on our hands and knees and crawl to the door. Of course, little Madame exactly fitted in. It was disappointing not to be able to take photographs,

but the rain was incessant until just before reaching Antong; not that the banks of the river afforded anything very striking in the way of scenery, but it was interesting to see Korea and her little mud huts, which looked too small for human beings to live in. Colonel Kakisaki pointed out several big buildings the Russians had erected for store-houses near Antong, now in their possession, also enormous quantities of timber which they were stacking on Chinese junks for Japan, all of which was most interesting. We were now nearing the vicinity of the battle of the Yalu, or Ku-ren-jo (their first land battle), where they had been victorious a month previously. On the wharf was General Shibouya and his staff waiting to receive us. The whole scene was so curious that it would be impossible to forget it. Forming a background to these trim officers and clean Japanese transport men were the stately, but filthy, Koreans in their so-called white clothes and black hats, the Chinese coolies in their tattered faded blue, all eagerly pressing round, anxious to catch sight of the two Englishwomen for whom so many preparations had been made, even jumping upon the piled-up sacks of rice and boxes of tinned meat, jabbering like monkeys all the time. The general made many apologies for our quarters, but said the soldiers had endeavoured to make them clean and habitable. The Chinese carrying-

PROVISIONS ON THE WHARF AT ANTONG.

chairs engaged by the Government were waiting for us; these, although elaborately lined with faded blue silk, were none too clean; but mine, being the chair of honour, rejoiced in a looking-glass, let in to the roof, and a little bracket with a brass vase fixed at the side for flowers, added to which was a bar in front, into which was let a small compass. The Chinese chair-bearers were a dirty, ragged-looking lot, but red tassels on their pudding-basin hats denoted that they were official; and as they waded through a sea of mud, I thought I had never smelt anything quite so dreadful. I have always thought that if a black-beetle could perspire it would resemble the heated Kaffir riksha boy; but the smell of these garlic-eating, filthy Chinamen was far worse. A few minutes later we entered a courtyard surrounded by a high wall, and guarded by soldiers; passing under an archway into a small enclosure, we were lowered in front of an old Chinese house. The officers followed to show us over. It was a long, low building of one storey, with a verandah running the whole length. The decorations of the roof, walls, and outside were strange to our unaccustomed eyes; but, in spite of the dilapidated condition, it was easy to see it had once been a Chinese residence of some importance. Round the inner walls of the courtyard had been elaborate Chinese pictures, but these

were now almost obliterated. In the inner hall several soldiers were busily employed putting the finishing touches for our comfort. Charcoal fires burnt in large earthen pans to dry up the dampness of the house. On one there was to be seen the homely kettle boiling; indeed, everything that the wit of man could devise had been done to make our stay possible. One room had been set apart as a dining-room, and to denote this "Dining-room" in large letters was pasted up over the doorway. A long table and wooden benches furnished the room. On the table was nailed white calico, and the benches were covered with new white army blankets, which gave an air of cleanliness; though the floors were like the road, they had been swept and made to look neat. Up a few stairs were rooms set apart for us to sleep in, and here the same kindly thought was in evidence. More white blankets had been spread over the chairs and tables which had been collected, and someone had taken the trouble to make a rough little wooden washstand. In the deep recesses of the wall in which the Chinamen make their beds were piled heaps of blankets, and the windows had been pasted afresh with paper; but in spite of these thoughtful preparations nothing could hide the real underlying squalor and smell. One dreaded to allow one's clothes to touch the floor or walls, as they were literally saturated

with an accumulation of stale smoke, pork grease, and the dirt of ages. The only thing we could not face was sleeping in the "k'ang," or divan, so I ordered our camp-beds to be unpacked and placed in the middle of each room. With our Jaeger blankets and our pillows we made quite comfortable beds. During the afternoon the Chinese Governor sent an officer with his card, which consisted of a large piece of pink paper folded in three. His greeting was most quaint. Those accustomed to the Chinese would think nothing of it, but as it was our first experience we were much amused. In entering, he touched his feet with both hands without bending the knees, and on his head was a small, turned-down hat like an inverted pudding-basin with a deep edge, a large stiff black plume sticking straight out from the back, and the top ornamented with what looked like a miniature gas-globe, but, I suppose, was the "official" button. His appearance was anything but that of a soldier. As none of us could understand a word he said, he presented the card, and, repeating the same salute, retired. I afterwards learnt that this placing of both hands on the feet corresponds with the Japanese salutation—that of bowing low, and at the same time sliding both hands down towards the knees. It shows they come empty-handed, carrying no arms, therefore can do no harm, and is a survival of an ancient

custom. As the rain had cleared a little, we thought we should like to see the town; so we walked—or rather I should say ploughed—through mud of a grey, slimy kind, at least six inches deep in the cleanest places, for over two hours. There was no attempt at streets, only long tracks of swampy mud, with huge boulders partially embedded—for which we were duly thankful, for they enabled us to walk with a certain amount of comfort, otherwise we should have sunk in up to our knees. In this quagmire I first became acquainted with what must always remain in my mind a vivid picture of marvellous endurance, cheerfulness, and herculean strength—that of the Japanese hand-transport, for hundreds of heavily-laden little carts were being drawn towards Fang-hwang-chêng by men taken principally from the coolie class, who could draw their burdens at least fifteen to twenty miles a day. To each cart were roped two men, whilst two more were free to push from behind. The carts, which could be drawn either by hand, mules, or oxen, were about the size of a costermonger's barrow, and of a light build, mounted on two very strong wheels, on which the heaped-up sacks of barley and rice were so arranged and roped as to make them easily balanced; not that barley and rice were the only rations provided, for thousands of wooden cases, containing tinned meat, prepared vegetables,

JAPANESE TRANSPORTS ON THE WAY TO FANG-HWANG-CHÊNG.

and dried fish, were being forwarded to the troops through this means. The task which lay before these sturdy little men was stupendous, owing to the direful condition of the country through which they had to pass; but the energy, cheerfulness, and good-humour displayed by them, as cart after cart bumped and jerked over the half hidden boulders whilst winding their way on their perilous journey through miles of this slimy mire, showed a spirit of patient endurance which almost amounted to heroism. Their trousers were rolled up high above the knee, and all had bare feet. We stood watching them from a raised piece of ground for some time, until we found we had collected such a crowd of filthy Chinese and Koreans around us that we were obliged to move on. In spite of disgust, one could not help feeling a pity for a people who could live in such deplorable surroundings. Until now I did not know it was possible to exist in such squalor; the smell of the houses, the smell of the people, and the smell of the mud all combined to make one loathsome whole. Nevertheless, it had its picturesque side, and I took several photographs, though the afternoon was grey, and the light bad. The rain had begun to fall again heavily, so we had to turn towards our Chinese home. On the way I was surprised and pleased to see that the Japanese had erected a bath-house containing hot water. It was a very

temporary building, principally made of bamboo and matting, but served the purpose for which it was intended, and gave to the soldiers what is an absolute necessity to every Japanese—a hot bath. Surely these are a marvellous people for making the very best out of the simplest conditions. From wood and paper they will build a very habitable, and at the same time artistic, dwelling; and from the "paddy" fields they will obtain not only the staff of life, but many luxuries, all of which go to make a peasant's lot a most contented one. We found on our return that our cook had prepared quite a nice little dinner over the charcoal fire, after which we retired for the night to our not too comfortable quarters. Somehow this Chinese squalor does not seem like roughing it in the ordinary sense of the word. It would have been no hardship, but a luxury, to have slept in a tent outside Antong; but the authorities cannot understand us—indeed, they think us very eccentric because we want to go up further, after seeing the dirt of this town.

CHAPTER IV.

AT THE FRONT.

Thursday, June 2nd. Antong.

THE rain of yesterday had cleared off, and the morning was beautifully fine, the aspect of our surroundings looked more cheerful, if less picturesque, in this light. It had been arranged to visit the military hospital in the afternoon. We were glad of the excuse of a lazy morning, as we were not much refreshed by our night's rest; the smell of the house and the scratching of the pigeons which thronged the outside were distinctly disturbing elements. During the morning an officer was sent to ask if we would like the band to play in our courtyard, at the same time explaining it had only just arrived from Japan, and was on its way to Fang-hwang-chêng, the head-quarters of the First Army Corps. We gladly accepted the offer, and whilst waiting, the general of the Chinese garrison came to call with his aide-de-camp, dressed in greasy silk, with a wonderful necklace of amber beads. His salute differed from the lieutenant's, who called the day before. His appearance was like that of Rutland Barrington, in the *Mikado*, much the worse for wear. He gave us a very

pressing invitation to luncheon, but I found a means of escape. As the band had arrived we asked him to step on to the verandah. The bandmaster very courteously asked what we should like played; knowing it to be the first occasion, I suggested their National Anthem. After a good deal of talking, I was informed they would like to put their national feelings aside, and play our anthem first, as we were their guests. It was exceedingly kind, and as the band struck up "God Save the King," a thrill of pleasure, mingled with an indescribable feeling of emotion, came over us. In a moment the walls of the yard swarmed with soldiers, Koreans, and Chinese, all scrambling for places. When we asked the officer to allow the troops and transport men to enter the yard, he gave the order from the verandah, and in they came, packing themselves as closely as possible, but without any pushing and scrambling, each man courteous to the other. The next thing they played was their own anthem, which delighted them enormously. This was a curious scene which we women looked down upon; the walls swarming with Koreans and Chinese, and the intelligent, sturdy transport soldier, all closely crowded together, listening intently to old English airs. After the general had taken his departure, he kindly sent a present of fowls, cakes, and ducks; the cakes we sent to the Russian wounded, and the ducks and hens existed in

our yard up to the day we left. After luncheon we started for the hospital. It was our first ride through the town in the chairs, and we created so great a sensation that at times it was quite difficult to get along; but not a woman's face was to be seen. The Chinese had fled from the Russians long ago, and the Koreans never come so far. A large Chinese house, with outbuildings, had been converted into a hospital; the premises were lent to the authorities by a rich Chinese, to whom we were introduced. He saluted us gravely by wringing his own hands. The room into which we were shown was large, and contained many fine pieces of carving. A peculiar wine was immediately brought in, which we all had to drink. The Chinaman now performed weird gestures, bringing his glass up to me. If he thought I was going to drink out of it he was mistaken, for I pretended not to understand, and only bowed and smiled, till he gave it up as useless. Then followed our visit to the wards. On our way we were shown a room set apart for operations, the entire ceiling and walls of which were stretched with unbleached calico, thus rendering them as far as possible serviceable, for this dwelling was no exception to Chinese squalor. I now saw in use the practical working of the carefully planned outfit seen at Tokio, and most adequate the appliances were, faithfully fulfilling the purpose for which they had been

designed. There were also many ingenious temporary contrivances made from wood and paper, which could only have occurred to the minds of these inventive people, and which greatly diminished the difficulties of the rough surroundings. The orderlies in their white overalls looked very clean and suitable for their work, and moved about with an alertness and gentleness which seemed to guarantee that they would make good nurses. But the wards in which we saw the patients were disappointing, the surroundings were gloomy, and the ventilation indifferent, though strenuous efforts had been made to render the place habitable. The patients, many of whom were very ill, in spite of disadvantages looked comfortable on their clean bedding, and well cared for; but there were not a great number of wounded at the time of our visit as the hospital ships were calling every week to convey the patients as rapidly as possible back to Japan. Next we saw the Russian wounded, who numbered about thirty; if anything, they were in more comfortable quarters. Of course, we had to speak through an interpreter; they all appeared much interested in our visit, but one poor man, who was very ill, burst into tears. I was much impressed by the medical officers' tender and kind manner towards him; indeed, they seemed on quite friendly terms with them all, though the difficulty of language prohibited much

conversation. But there were many little ways by which they showed their consideration, and whenever it was possible to obtain European food it was given, and as soon as the patients were fit they were sent to Matsuyama, where more comfortable quarters awaited. We then had to cross to another part of the town to see the rest of the hospital, for in this building there was not sufficient room for all. These premises were even less suitable, all the surroundings being of the same character; but the patients were doing well, and there was no special outbreak of dysentery or cholera amongst them—nor, indeed, was there one case of the latter in the town, for I particularly asked. I was surprised, though, to hear that the few mild cases of dysentery were entirely isolated, the doctors explaining that they treated this disease as "Infectious." It is no good disguising the fact that I was greatly disappointed at finding the patients in such buildings, to say nothing of my feelings of anxiety for the men who had to be nursed in this unhealthy atmosphere; I had hoped to see a tent hospital on the outskirts of the town. The management and appliances of the place were excellent, only the situation was too faulty to be overlooked. The work, however, done here within the month was considerable; four hundred of their own men and about five hundred Russians had been treated, with comparatively few

deaths. I think the officers perceived my disappointment in the surroundings, for they explained that it was hoped Antong would not long remain the base, which statement did not quite coincide with the various rumours that Fang-hwang-chêng was to remain the headquarters of the army. In that case Antong must surely be the most convenient base, as it is only thirty miles in a direct line. After we had finished our visit to the patients, some of the officers suggested we should go to the top of the hill to see from a distance the position of the Yalu fight. Near the top we passed many soldiers' graves, all of which were neatly made with a piece of wood at the head, giving the name of each man. Our poor little Japanese lady was much distressed, and went from grave to grave, bowing reverently. A few flowers, which had been given us at the hospital, we placed on these newly-made mounds, amongst other tokens of sympathy. At a little distance were the lonely graves of the Russians. How desolate a thing is war! The mist and rain had suddenly descended, so unfortunately we were unable to see the positions. Just as we were turning away a non-commissioned officer presented me with a shell, fired by the Japanese, which had fallen on this hill. In the evening we made arrangements for our visit on the morrow into Korea, to inspect the hospital

TRANSPORT CARTS AT ANTONG.

at Wi-ju, *en route* visiting the battlefield of Ku-ren-jo. I suggested that we should go part of the way on horseback to save our chair-bearers, as it would take us about fourteen hours over very rough ground. There were no side-saddles to be procured, but Madame Kuroda had provided herself with a divided skirt, as she had foreseen we might have to ride. I had only my habit, which was useless, so decided to buy baggy Chinese trousers and wear a long coat, and effect the change when I wanted to ride. The officer retired, bowing politely, but thinking us more eccentric than ever. There is one extraordinary characteristic about the Japanese—they can do nothing without talking for hours, which we found most trying, owing to our not understanding the language; and I am ashamed to say it often tried my patience, for they never tired of arranging for our comfort.

Friday, June 3rd. Antong.

We had to be up early to start in good time for our long journey to Wi-ju. When we assembled in the courtyard our party looked formidable indeed—our chairs and thirty chair-bearers, two officers, a sergeant of the Imperial Guard, one interpreter, Taguchi, Madame Kuroda, and others. We numbered in all forty-five. Our various costumes were remarkable; Taguchi wore a frock-coat, hard

hat, and trousers tucked into elastic-side boots, and a War Office badge on his arm. I had repeatedly implored him, through Madame Kuroda, to take to a more rational style of dress for the front, but in vain; being an official, he felt compelled to appear in a frock-coat. Two extra horses, which were brought for us, were big beasts, belonging to the troopers; the saddle-bags were full, which did not offer a very comfortable prospect. Our cavalcade was immense! Surely we should have beaten any variety show touring through England; but it was not yet complete, for our Chinese interpreter put the grotesque finishing touch. He was well under five foot, and wore the most rakish and horsey of European clothes; his English was execrable, but we hoped for the best. He nervously mounted the smallest and meekest of mules, to which was attached a rope four yards long. At the further end a half-naked ragged Chinaman was told off to lead him; by this I discovered our interpreter was no horseman. At last we started, headed by the sergeant, and we attracted no little attention as we slowly wended our way through the mire of Antong. Almost immediately after leaving the city the country began to look hilly and very pretty; it was a great relief to smell the fresh air again. During the morning we halted, and, wishing to ride, I effected a change into the Chinese costume. When I appeared no

one could refrain from smiling. The first horse I mounted was a big black one, and much too powerful; but meeting two troopers on the road, one riding a pony, I thought it looked more suitable, so suggested a change, to which he assented. At noon we again halted, and left our cavalcade at the foot of the hill, for we had almost reached the battlefield of Ku-ren-jo. It was scarcely a month since the battle had taken place, and we were the first civilians to visit it. After a long climb to the top of this hill, we found ourselves on the actual ground where the Russians had entrenched themselves. The hill commanded a magnificent view of the surrounding country. Captain Hadda, one of the officers who accompanied us, and had been present at the battle, explained the position of the two armies. Standing looking down from the hill, we saw the river winding in and out, a long, flat piece of yellow sand stretching in the direction of Wi-ju, and ending in a small coppice of willows, which trees had proved such a successful ambush for the Japanese heavy guns. The advisability of trying to bring this artillery through such impossible country had led to much previous criticism; but, according to what we were now told, they were fully justified in undertaking this enormous task—it was the means of their ultimate success, and, incredible as it seems, these few willow trees which we now

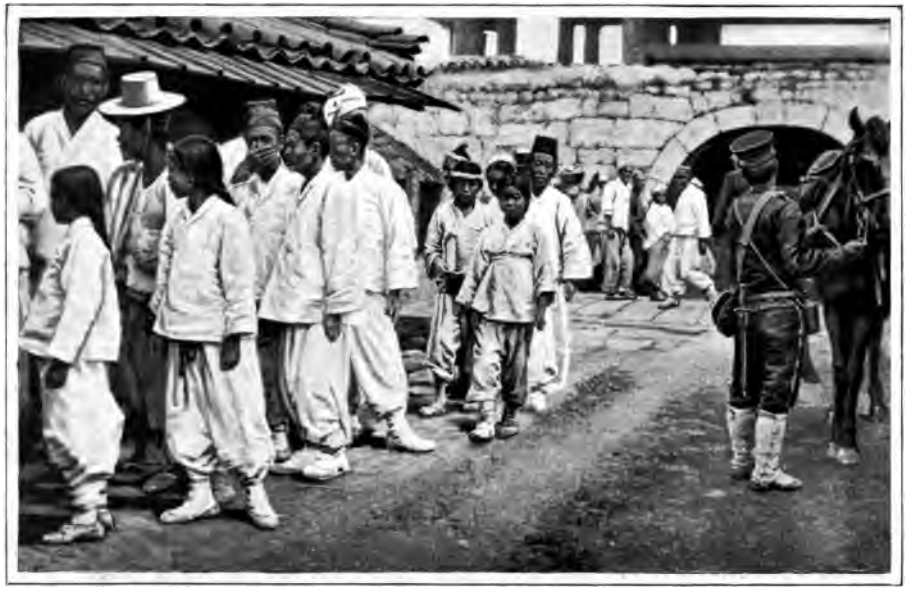
saw in front of us afforded sufficient shelter to hide them from the Russians, who owned afterwards to having no cognisance of their being there. How the enemy ever evacuated such a position will always remain a mystery, for they had fortified themselves strongly, and threaded the hill-sides with barbed wire; but this proved no impediment to the Japanese, for they piled the dead bodies of their comrades on it, even the living throwing themselves willingly down and allowing the troops to pass over. But much of the Japanese success in capturing the position was attributed to the rapidity with which they threw the pontoon bridge over the river in a few hours during the dead of night. The Russian retreat was in such haste that they literally trampled each other down. But for this stampede, many lives might have been saved. As we walked about we came across pathetic reminiscences — scraps of recently-written letters, empty cigarette cases, and the remains of camp fires; and yet more painful evidence, blood-splashed stones, and huge holes where cannon balls had ploughed up the earth. It seemed almost sacrilege to be wandering over a place where so recently such ghastly slaughter had occurred; and the scene we now witnessed made it impossible to realise where we were. Swallows skimmed about, the cuckoo was troublesome, the atmosphere humming with insects, and butterflies settled on the white

IN THE RUSSIAN TRENCHES.

(SHOWING THE DEPTH OF THE TRENCHES AT THE BATTLE OF KU-REN-JO.

peonies and marguerites; in the Russian trenches we picked a few late violets. Captain Hadda was generous in his praise of the bravery of the Russian officers; but the men with whom he afterwards came in contact were astoundingly ignorant, in many cases not knowing the names of their officers, or able to read or write their own. We descended the hill and passed over the now famous river by the pontoon bridge, and after crossing the plain of sand, halted under the willow trees which had afforded such kindly shelter to the Japanese. As we renewed our journey a curious scene presented itself to us. Koreans, engaged by the Japanese to assist in transport work, were returning to Antong in hundreds, with empty ammunition boxes on their backs. They ranged from old men down to quite young children, clothed alike in mud-coloured rags, once supposed to be white. The men's tall chimney-pot hats looked grotesquely like exaggerated opera hats. On their feet were wound yards and yards of linen in lieu of stockings. If you once saw a Korean unwrap his feet and readjust these cloths you would never forget the sight; but in spite of all their filth and squalor they seemed a very handsome race, and have a magnificent carriage. As we neared Wi-ju the country became even prettier than it had been; a fine range of mountains stretched away to our left, the river had broadened out

considerably, and the banks were well wooded. About 4 p.m. we reached Wi-ju, and on the outskirts of the town were met by several officers. The entrance was imposing; we passed under a fine archway, of which I took some photographs. We then found ourselves in a long, very narrow street, the horrors of which are indescribable. The people literally swarmed out of their mud-huts to see us; the smell surpassed that of Antong, and the ground was almost solid with flies; but the officers assured us it was clean compared with the condition in which they had found it. A Korean has literally no idea of sanitation. He thinks it is part of his existence to have small-pox and typhus, and the earlier they are over the better for him. It was terrible for the Japanese soldiers to be in such surroundings, and we felt a great sympathy for these almost fastidiously clean people who had to be quartered here. We made our way slowly to the headquarters of the Korean army; the authorities had borrowed it for the day, having, they considered, no suitable place in which to receive us. The building was much on the same style as that of a Chinese official house. The Korean General, who was present and introduced, was in a uniform which resembled that of the Church Army; but it was impossible to converse with him, as he spoke only his own language. Everything had been done to welcome us in



ENTRANCE TO WI-JU.

these strange surroundings. Tea was brought in, and bottled beer; we chose the latter, as we could not fancy anything which had not been hermetically sealed before coming into the town. The flies proved so distressing that soldiers were set apart to wave fans vigorously. I visited the hospital and saw about fifty patients, and I was sorry to find the same mistake had been made as at Antong —that of trying to utilise unsuitable dwelling-houses for the sick and wounded, only here they had the excuse that it was only temporary. The flies and smell were very trying; but the patients looked pleased to see us, and in spite of the discomforts they all seemed cheerful, and making the best of their surroundings. It must have been heart-breaking work to the painstaking and ingenious doctors to have to cope with these difficult quarters. They had one comforting reflection, however —that no one could have done more in the circumstances than they had. Our return journey to Antong in the cool was delightful, the scenery beautiful in the evening light, and the after-sunset glow magic. We arrived late, as our Chinamen were dead-beat, and had perpetually to rest. As we passed through the lantern-lit town, crowds of Chinese and Koreans were sitting at the doors of their hovels. The smell of fried fish and pork, being cooked for their supper, was loathsome. The little soldier had cleaned and smartened

himself up, and was loitering about smoking his evening cigarette, the hand-transport having ceased for the night. On arriving at our house we found supper waiting, and in comparison with the unholy dirt we had seen to-day it seemed almost clean and comfortable. Whilst at supper our Chinese interpreter appeared. With much gesticulation he addressed me as follows: "Madam, you must excuse me, my horse fled away, and I had to take to foot exercise." So this was the explanation of his disappearance, which had caused us much inconvenience during the whole day.

Saturday, June 4th. Antong.

We spent the morning on the wharf, watching the sick and wounded being placed on lighters, which would convey them down the Yalu to the Red Cross hospital ship—a trip of four or five hours, if they had the luck not to stick on a sand-bank. The doctors took an active part in seeing that the patients had everything they required; the lifting and handling was carried out with every tenderness, and those who were not able to walk were carried on the admirable stretcher I have already described. It was with pleasure we thought of the welcome awaiting them on the *Hakuai Maru*. There was no difference made between their own soldiers and the Russians; they had exactly the same con-

RUSSIAN CANNON, TAKEN AT THE BATTLE OF KU-REN-JO, BEING SHIPPED TO JAPAN.

sideration. We spoke to one or two of the latter through their interpreter, and they seemed contented and pleased at the prospect of going to Matsuyama, but the Japanese wounded were distinctly depressed that the nature of their injuries made it impossible for them to return to the front. I really believe these men think there is something absolutely disgraceful in not being killed outright. It is this entire disregard of life which renders them such a terrible enemy. Surely, there can be no other people who would court death so fervently ; they earnestly wish to die fighting, as they consider it the noblest recognition of their manhood. Such a death is to them a gift from the gods. To-morrow, at an early hour, we were to start for Fang-hwang-chêng, so the whole of our afternoon was taken up with preparations. In the evening we strolled again on to the wharf, the only place where it was sufficiently clean to walk about ; but since the morning we found it crowded with cannons, ambulance carts, and stretchers, all of which were spoils taken from the Russians during the recent fighting, and were being shipped to Japan. I was very much pleased to have the opportunity of seeing the latter ; they were so heavy that we could only just lift them, and their ambulance carts were clumsy and so short that it would be impossible for a man to lie down in them at full length. Once more we sur-

veyed our luggage, but this time with much self-congratulation, for we had managed to cut it down to a hold-all and small bag each. I had also reduced our stores very considerably, and only taken the bare necessities, except for a few tins of preserved fruit and asparagus, which we thought we might have a chance of giving away.

Sunday, June 5th.

We were up at 5 a.m., as it was most advisable to make an early start before the intense heat of the day. The morning was misty, but promised to be very hot. By an early hour our cavalcade was ready to start. It had been added to considerably; six armed infantrymen formed a guard, and ten extra Chinamen for our chairs brought our number up to over fifty. Dr. Murai, an army doctor, was also amongst the number. Soon after we left Antong we found ourselves in what promised to be a delightful country, but very rough for travelling. We now realised more than ever the hard work of the hand-transport, and the masterly way in which it was carried out. The carts (as I have already mentioned) were of the lightest possible build; the waggons, which were drawn by mules and oxen, were also of the same description, and of a most convenient size. Looking down from the top of the hill where we were resting, we saw these two great columns, one advancing towards

SOLDIERS FILLING THEIR WATER-BOTTLES.

Fang-hwang-chêng, and the other returning empty to Antong. Up hill and down dale, with no attempt at roads, except those which had been made by the continuous wheels of former waggons, these little carts wended their toilsome way. What a brave, cheery man the transport soldier is, straining and pulling with the ropes over his shoulder! The nearly naked Chinaman, also assisting with his quaint, squeaking wheel-barrow, which sounded like the chirping of a thousand crickets, lent the one Oriental touch to this moving mass, for in the distance the men looked European in their trim uniform. It was impossible not to draw comparisons between this almost fragile transport and the large clumsy waggons seen in Natal. The air was full of sound which rose like the buzzing of a mighty insect. On descending the hill we took our part in the procession, and toiled along in the heat and dust, causing much interest amongst the men; all were polite, and wherever it was possible to draw a cart aside to afford us a better place in the track, they readily gave us the advantage. We were now quite out of touch with any Europeans, entirely under the protection of the Japanese army; but it was with the greatest confidence we entrusted ourselves to their care. As the day advanced the sun was very hot, and I was sorry to see the soldiers had not yet their sun-helmets or their khaki clothing. I lent

my sun-umbrella to Taguchi, who was still in his frock-coat, sweltering on a waggon. We lunched on the side of a hill amongst the ruins of a burnt village. It was nice to rest, for the jogging and swinging of the chairs was very tiring. I noticed as I passed along how the Chinese were returning to their agricultural work; quite near to where the transport was passing they were tilling their ground, a thing they had been unable to do for some time, for the Russian treatment of the Chinese had rendered it impossible. To-day we made our first acquaintance with the Japanese army biscuit, which I think extremely nice. It contains a certain amount of wheat and rice flour and a few grains of millet seed, which latter is most agreeable, and saves it from becoming unduly hard. Indeed, there is no hardship about eating these biscuits. They are served out to the men twice a day in packets. The reason of the mention of "packets" is to call attention to the fact that they are so sensibly protected in this way from dust and flies, as they are enclosed in very tough, but thin, paper bags, which are sealed, and contain four in each. Eight biscuits, and a measured portion of rice, varied with pickled vegetable, salt fish, or tinned meat form the soldier's daily ration. But I was even more interested in being able to take some photographs which illustrate the simple but adequate way in which the Japanese

Sanitary Corps have devised a plan of supplying the troops in the field with boiled water. A Chinese portable iron boiler (or cauldron) is used, under it is hollowed out a place for the fire, where is burnt either charcoal, wood, or coal. To each regiment there are so many allotted, so at various points along the route boiled water is easily provided. The rapidity with which the water is boiled is extraordinary. I was unable to bring home one of these boilers, but procured a kettle from the Chinese, which is made on the same principle. There is a stringent discipline about troops being found drinking or filling a water-bottle at a river. If a man is caught disobeying the order a mark is put against him, and at a convenient time punishment is meted out; also it is noted as a serious crime at headquarters. We reached Rokoto, a small depôt for stores, about two o'clock, where we found a welcome from Major Soga, who was expecting us, and had done his best to provide luncheon. It was very appetisingly laid out, and we did full justice to it, and left the camp with many promises to return on our way back. The country through which we were now passing was a good deal rougher, and at times it was with difficulty we proceeded. We had to cross small rivulets, which the Chinese objected to exceedingly, and noisily squabbled at getting their feet wet. Those who were not carrying our chairs at the moment jumped

on to any waggon which could afford them a dry crossing. The evening was beautiful, and the mountains looked very grand; many of them were well wooded, and on passing through this pretty country we began to make a list of the wild flowers. The may trees were in full bloom, the ash, the oak, and the willow were constantly to be seen. Amongst the flowers which we recognised were the large white peonies, forget-me-nots, wild roses, bleeding-hearts, white Canterbury bells, daisies, buttercups, and many of the ferns we see in the woods at home. The cuckoo was again to be heard; we saw many beautiful butterflies of very large size, and as the atmosphere was dry we felt exhilarated. We had now reached To-san-jo, a very large camp, where the soldiers literally ran to see who could be passing in their midst; this camp, we afterwards learnt, was being used us a centre for distributing stores, and at the time of our visit it was crowded with a busy throng of men and numbers of poor, thin-looking horses. I was surprised at the neat, clean appearance of the depôt, the explanation being that the camp was swept up daily, and the refuse burnt every night. On a high hill had been placed five tents, which commanded a most superb view; here we were to stay for the night. Major Honma, the principal officer, had spared himself no trouble in making the kindest of preparations for our comfort. The

SHOWING THE BOILER IN USE.

tents, which were all square, were quite the most luxurious I have ever been in; and a very ingenious plan had been hit upon to raise the floors—the edges were banked high with wood, and the earth thickly covered with sand. Rustic tables and stools had been made, and at the very top of the hill was an extra tent for us to sit and admire the wonderful panorama, but to our disappointment we were unable to stay out long, as heavy rain had commenced. Just before we retired for the night, a message was sent to say we should be well guarded—a necessary precaution, as ten Russians had been captured here only a few days previously. It was a great joy to sleep in a tent after the squalor of Antong.

CHAPTER V.

IMPRESSIONS AT THE FRONT.

Monday, June 6th. To-san-jo.

IT was necessary to begin the day very early, but we were more than rewarded; the morning was mysteriously beautiful, the rain of last night having cleared off, and the effect of the sunlight through the rolling mist so glorious that it only wanted the chariot of Phœbus Apollo to complete the unearthly splendour. We breakfasted in the open; never had simple fare tasted so good. Before leaving the camp I visited the field hospital. Though small, it was very cheering after those we had seen at Antong and Wi-ju, and I was much impressed by the clever contrivances produced through the humblest means, and learnt many useful lessons. The tents in use were square, one set apart for operations was a model of neatness. But what was most ingenious were the temporary beds. A lattice work of tree boughs, raised about six inches from the ground, formed the basis on which to place thickly-strewn young branches, over which was tightly stretched fine matting, procurable from disused rice-bags, the whole of which made a most excellent bed. Scarlet

ONE OF THE RUSSIAN AMBULANCE CARTS ON THE WHARF AT ANTONG.

blankets gave a cheerful look, and, with a round chaff pillow, supplied all that was necessary. Even in this small hospital tents were set apart for cases such as dysentery and typhoid, which seemed a wise precaution. Just as we were about to start, Madame Kuroda informed me there was a soldier waiting with a message of welcome from his comrades. I was surprised to find he spoke fluent English, and without hesitation he made the following speech: "I have come to thank you for coming to see us, and to thank you for your consolation towards our soldiers. We Japanese do not love to fight; we love peace, but now we are obliged to fight. I thank you again; henceforth we shall go hand in hand with England." He bowed with great politeness, and was entirely self-possessed. The thought was kind, and we much appreciated it. Without further delay, we started on the last part of our journey for Fang-hwang-chêng. The progress, however, was slow, for we had much rougher ground to go over, and a great part of our way lay in the sandy bed of a now dried-up river. Every moment proved interesting; coolies were rapidly making a light railway line, and at various stages sentry boxes, made from finely-interlaced young willows, seemed to afford ample protection from heat and rain. From time to time we met the sick being carried on stretchers to the field hospital at

To-san-jo; from there to go by easy stages to Antong, thence embarking on the hospital ship. About 4 p.m. we halted for tea in a pretty little valley, and here we were joined by a young officer, a friend of Madame Kuroda, who had ridden out from headquarters to meet us. He looked most soldier-like, no doubt due to the fact of his coming from a famous old soldier family, the Yamaguchis. As he spoke English, we spent a most interesting hour listening to many incidents relating to the battle of the Yalu, he having taken part in it. He praised the bravery of the Russian officers, but could not understand why they did not kill themselves on finding there was no possible means of escape. The rank and file, however, seemed only too glad to be taken when the leaders were wounded or killed. It was difficult to believe that scarcely a month ago Russians had fled across this very ground where now we sat quietly talking. Madame Kuroda told us afterwards a curious story relating to this lieutenant which aptly illustrates the spirit throughout the army. He was commanded to find, before starting for the front, a large number of horses; this in Japan is a difficult matter. On coming to bid good-bye to Madame Kuroda (whom he looked upon in the light of a mother), he said, "It is very possible I may never see you again, for if I cannot find the number of horses I am commanded, I shall not return.

RUSSIAN WOUNDED BEING CARRIED ON TO LIGHTERS.

It is a far greater risk for me than going to the front, for in battle, even in the midst of bullets, there is a chance; but if I fail in this responsible mission I must kill myself, for I shall not have fulfilled my duty." "Oh! pure conscience and upright, how doth a little error wound thee sore!" Can there be another people with such an exalted sense of responsibility, who, having apparently failed in the fulfilment of their sovereign's bidding, would mete out to themselves such punishment?

About a mile before we reached the city a galloper was sent out to report our approach, and as we crossed a tributary of the Ai-ho we saw on the bank several officers waiting to welcome us. Those who were sent included a representative of General Kuroki, two army medical officers, and several others. Our excitement was great in at last attaining our goal, and was added to by this unlooked-for reception on the bank of the river. The officers mounting, at once led the way to the town, which was some way off. We shall always remember the greeting, as we drew near the city, from the Japanese artisans and coolies, who stood in rows, bowing and removing their hats. Fang-hwang-chêng was not the dirty place I had expected; the streets looked clean, and there was practically no smell. We drew up beside an old gateway, through which we passed into a courtyard,

closely guarded, which led to a Chinese official residence with beautiful carvings over the doorway. This, we were informed, was to be our " home " during our stay. On entering a square stone hall we found every sign of welcome; the rooms leading out of it had been freshly papered, a sitting-room prepared, and though furniture was not the strong point, it looked very pleasant. A large pot of roses stood on an improvised pedestal, and the table was newly covered with cretonne. The adjoining room was set apart for my bedroom, and had been tastefully decorated with pale blue Chinese curtains. Those allotted to Madame Kuroda and Miss St. Aubyn were also decorated in the same style, only varied in colour. All these kindly thoughts had been carefully devised by the officers, the fulfilment of them had been carried out by the men, and we deeply appreciated their efforts, knowing how difficult it must have been to think out the requirements of European women. As we were looking round these comfortable quarters, I heard a cheery voice in English asking for me by name. Sir Ian Hamilton, accompanied by Colonel Hume, entered. I need not say how pleased we were to see them. Doubts had crossed my mind whether our attachés might not disapprove of our coming up so far, but in a moment these fears were silenced. How good it was to look again upon our English uniform, with its

SIR IAN HAMILTON. CAPTAIN VINCENT.
COLONEL HUME. CAPTAIN JARDINE.

OUR ATTACHÉS.

neat ribbon decorations! The men seemed so tall and fair, after having been with a people so uniformly small, with black hair and brown eyes. We arranged to go over in the evening and dine with them in their Chinese house, where we were to meet the two other English attachés, for they were all quartered together. Scarcely had they left when a Japanese officer brought an invitation from General Kuroki, inviting us to dinner on the morrow, which invitation we were delighted to accept. Madame Kuroda was again much agitated about our clothes, and almost wept because we had brought no evening dresses. Sir Ian and Colonel Hume returned later to conduct us to their quarters for dinner whilst we were still discussing this momentous question, and seemed to take it also to heart, enquiring anxiously into the state of our wardrobe, which consisted of an extra tweed skirt and blouse each. As we were crossing to the officers' quarters, our attention was drawn to the band playing for the first time, having only just arrived from Antong. On reaching their little Chinese house, we were introduced to Captain Vincent and Captain Jardine. The dinner, though rough and ready, will not be forgotten by any of us. The menu consisted of soup, chicken, pudding, and a piece of fresh bread each. The exclamations as the different dishes came on were amusing, the men asserting they were having quite a banquet owing

to our presence. If this was a banquet, what could they have been living on, for, though it sounds very nice, it was most unappetising? But they had one great cause for thankfulness—the fact that they had been given a house to themselves, the other attachés being camped some way off. Why we all felt as if we had known each other for long I cannot say, but so it was. Miss St. Aubyn and I did most of the talking, as we had been longing to tell our experiences to some kindred spirits; and peal after peal of laughter might have been heard as we described our riding, and many were the congratulations we received on getting up so far. It was extremely nice to hear how Sir Ian Hamilton spoke and thought about the Japanese, so different from the many scathing remarks I had heard about the "danger of an Oriental race winning," "a people not to be trusted," and many other disparaging criticisms; but he had come amongst them in a very different frame of mind, recognising how many valuable lessons there were to be learnt. It was gratifying to think he should have been chosen to represent our army. During the evening we discussed General Kuroki's dinner-party, to which they had also been invited; we received many suggestions about our dress, and, man-like, they proposed we should put "a feather in our hair, or something." It was just eleven o'clock when we

were conducted back to our house by the aid of Chinese lanterns. We were asked to go out riding the next morning, but this we resolutely refused to do, having no side-saddles. It was with much satisfaction I learnt that General Kuroki looked upon our visit in a most favourable light; indeed, he had wished to prepare a much larger reception, and was only deterred from carrying out his idea by being informed how distressed I should be. My one regret throughout this eventful sojourn has been the knowledge that we are giving trouble at such a momentous time, and here at the front I feel doubly conscious of it.

Tuesday, June 7th. Fang-hwang-chêng.

We breakfasted early, and during the meal Sir Ian Hamilton came in to see how we were getting on, and in course of conversation told me there were a good many cases of typhus in the town. Our little Japanese lady was quite delighted with him, and said he was the "best-mannered Englishman" she had ever met! At 10.15 a.m. an officer called to escort us to the Headquarter Staff, so that I could make my expected call—of course, accompanied by Madame Kuroda and Miss St. Aubyn. The general was residing in a very fine old temple, which had been thoroughly cleaned and converted into a dwelling-house, and most dignified and befitting it looked. There were many officers at the entrance to

receive us. General Kuroki's welcome was charming, and he at once presented us to his Imperial Highness, Prince Kuni, his aide-de-camp. Kuroki looked a much younger man than I had anticipated—short of stature, with a strong, determined face, tempered by an expression so tranquil as almost to amount to sadness; but his most apparent characteristic was gentleness of voice and manner. The Prince, a typical Japanese, was very small, with most graceful manners, and seemed by his cheery laugh to enjoy life immensely. Though we could not speak directly to them, we were able, through Madame Kuroda's fluent interpretation, to have an interesting, and at the same time amusing, conversation. Tea was at once brought in and handed round, but I do not think it would ever be possible to become accustomed to seeing men sipping it at all hours of the day. It was curious, also, to note that every soldier wore his medals, from the highest to the lowest. Many of the decorations were very pretty, but looked out of place here; I heard that the ribbons on our officers' coats were much admired, and it would not be surprising if they adopted our regulation. I must not forget to mention General Fugii, who was also present; he is thought very highly of, and certainly looks intensely clever. Meeting these generals, who were taking such a prominent place in the world's history, was of extraordinary interest;

but it was difficult to realise they had achieved such glorious victories, for their manner was so simple and free from the slightest suggestion of over-exultation. Our visit ended, we were taken to see some of the trophies captured from the Russians; one was a huge cooking-stove on wheels, and I can give no better idea of this elaborate contrivance than to liken it to a miniature traction-engine. It was amusing to see the contempt with which this unwieldy machine was regarded. During the afternoon various officers and people called, amongst whom were the doctors from the military hospital. On enquiring about the reported cases of "typhus," I gathered from what was said that it was likely to be typhoid. Dr. Kumura (who spoke good English), seeing I was interested in the subject, brought me a list of the diseases in the town and hospital, and after much discussion he came to the conclusion the word had been wrongly translated by the foreign correspondents, which I afterwards learnt to be the case; and much to the distress of the doctors a report had been sent abroad that Russians were dying in numbers from typhus, the real truth being that one had died from typhoid, and there were sixteen cases in the hospital. This little incident proves how reports in the newspapers on medical matters are often inaccurate, being written by men who have practically no knowledge in the use of such terms, therefore

unintentionally misleading the public. After tea we went for a walk with our officers, but before starting we took some photographs of each other. Our walk was limited owing to restrictions, and our way lay in the direction of a not too cheerful spot—a Chinese burial-ground, where we sat and talked. A little way off was our guardsman, without whom we were never allowed to go outside our doors. We returned in time to "dress" for the dinner. At a few minutes to eight o'clock an officer called to conduct us to General Kuroki's quarters. Almost immediately after our arrival, "our attachés" entered, followed by several Japanese officers. Miss St. Aubyn and myself were given the only chairs in the room, the others having to sit on wooden benches. Madame Kuroda stood behind us, an Eastern custom also, it not being considered etiquette for her as a Japanese woman to sit down unless invited to do so by the Prince. Wine was at once brought in and handed in little cups. The difficulty of not knowing the language made conversation at first a little strained, and we all felt glad when dinner was announced. General Kuroki took me in, Miss St. Aubyn following with Prince Kuni; the rest brought up the rear. Dinner was served in a large hall, and though we sat on rough wooden benches, the tables were most invitingly laid out. Damask cloth and napkins, glasses, knives and forks, all of

which looked extremely English except for a large Chinese vase of artificial flowers, most realistically made by some of the troops, consisting of cherry blossom (the emblem of the army), irises, and peonies. The conversation now became quite brisk. Captain Jardine and Captain Vincent, who had been learning Japanese, made speeches to the Prince, who readily understood, and seemed pleased that they had made the effort. The band played outside bright English music, and this ever-to-be-remembered dinner was over all too soon, though the menu was fairly long, and consisted of the following: Clear soup, entrée, chicken patties with tomato sauce, stewed bully-beef with green peas, custard tarts, and sponge cakes. Wines: sauterne, claret, and champagne, all of which proved excellent. General Kuroki proposed my health, after which we returned to the ante-room, where coffee and liqueurs were handed round. About 9.30 p.m. I was informed with much solemnity that we were expected to attend a fête. General Kuroki, asking me to accompany him, led the way, soldiers carrying lanterns in front of us, and we entered a veritable fairyland, the rough piece of ground we had seen in the morning being transformed into a flower garden; rustic stools and tables were dotted about, hundreds of Chinese lanterns hung from the branches of the trees, flowers bloomed everywhere—chrysanthemums,

peonies, and roses. It was with much interest that we went round to look at the various flower-beds and tried to discover how these plants had sprung into existence in a few short hours. The explanation was simple but ingenious, tree branches having been cut and shaped to represent various bushes and shrubs, to which paper blossoms had been cleverly attached, defying detection at first sight. The evening was lovely, without a breath of wind to disturb the serenity of this quaint garden, and it was beyond the flight of imagination to conceive that this could be the "front." But to these people no task seems to come amiss, and they show at every turn the artistic bent of their nature. Think of our Englishmen carrying out so elaborate an idea in such circumstances! The most difficult part of the evening now commenced, numerous introductions having to be made to Japanese officers, foreign attachés, and war correspondents. The whole was intensely interesting, and I longed for time to stand still so as to be better able to appreciate it. At one end of the ground a huge marquee had been erected, over the entrance of which hung various national flags grouped together. England, France, Germany, and America were represented, but always with the Japanese flag separating them. In the marquee was suspended a large candelabra, made of green boughs, decorated with cherry blossom, and

little flags again representing the nations, but with the addition of the Red Cross flag; it was wonderfully effective. A stage was erected at one end of the tent, immediately in front of which were placed two Chinese chairs, brought from the general's quarters; and on being shown these as our allotted places from where we were to witness a performance, we felt very much *en évidence.* Madame Kuroda and our English officers stayed near us, so that we were able, in between the pauses, to discuss the merits and delights of the evening. His Imperial Highness, Prince Kita-Shiraka-wa, who was not present at the dinner, came in, and General Kuroki at once presented us. He and Prince Kuni then installed themselves on a bench near us, though conversation was out of the question. The juggling, top-spinning, and fan-dancing were to our unaccustomed eyes marvellous; and when I expressed surprise that they were able to have such undertakings here, I was informed it was due to having a conscript army. There is no work or art which cannot be called forth at a moment's notice. The difficulties of the army in the field must surely be materially lessened in such circumstances. I could not help feeling how strange it was that at such a momentous time in Japanese history these generals should have the leisure to entertain us in such a lavish way; but if a thing is worth doing,

no detail is too trivial for these clever people. This characteristic must in a great measure have aided them in this astounding campaign. Towards the end of the evening many of the officers presented us with flags from the candelabra, one grouping together the Union Jack, their National, and the Red Cross flag, and presenting it to me with many bows. Their National Anthem brought the entertainment to a close. After saying good-bye to the Princes and General Kuroki, we were conducted back to our Chinese house by our attachés and many Japanese officers. On the way Sir Ian Hamilton remarked how extraordinary it was that the Japanese could throw themselves heart and soul into entertaining foreigners in such a manner when the eyes of the whole world were centred on Fang-hwang-chêng, and they were literally fighting for their existence. He also said he considered "a new force had come to light in the world —that of the Japanese Infantry." The welcome and hospitality extended to us we all deeply appreciated, and it will always remain one of the pleasantest reminiscences of our eventful sojourn with the Japanese army.

Wednesday, June 8th. Fang-hwang-chêng.

At 8.30 a.m. General Kuroki came to call. We were only just dressed in time, having not yet breakfasted. He was as charming as ever, and expressed the hope that I should

find the hospital I was about to visit in good order. I was very glad to have this opportunity of thanking him for the welcome extended to us by his officers; also to tell him how much we had enjoyed the delightful fête of last night. Whilst we were at breakfast more visitors came in, including our Englishmen, whom we asked to dinner in the evening. We started for the hospital about ten o'clock. Whilst passing along the street the cleanliness of the town again impressed me immensely. All was in such good order; nothing offensive was to be seen or smelt, as in Antong. On arrival we found that a temple had been appropriated and transformed into a temporary hospital, and with a few ingenious alterations it answered the purpose admirably, being large, airy, and clean. There was no lack of energy which could add to the comfort of the patients. The authorities were about to build a wood-hut hospital to accommodate some thousands; thus it was to be concluded that Fang-hwang-chêng was likely to remain the headquarters of the army for some time to come. In the wards all the patients looked extremely comfortable on so-called bedsteads, which were in reality iron stands at the head and foot; down the centre were boards or stretched canvas to support the thickly-wadded mattress, while a round chaff pillow and scarlet blanket completed the bed. A neat but

simple wooden contrivance to suspend an ice-bag over a patient was pleasing to see. Everywhere were beautifully arranged vases of wild flowers, which, I was told, gave more pleasure to these sturdy little soldiers than any amount of books. The vases were constantly replenished, and the patients entered largely into the joy of arranging them. I am not surprised at this, for on the way up we saw many a soldier deliberately pick flowers and put them beside him before eating his simple meal of rice, and it is due to flowers taking a great part in the Shinto religion that they are so highly prized. A wing or corner to this hospital was set apart for dysentery cases. The most stringent rules are observed, and every precaution taken even after the patients are supposed to be convalescent; they are not allowed to mix with the other men for a considerable time. There was not a great deal of sickness in the hospital, and most of the wounded had been sent towards Antong; but I saw one or two cases dressed, and all the orderlies were in white overalls. This hospital certainly was as much a pleasure as Antong had proved a disappointment. In the operating room the hand of the carpenter was to be seen: a most ingenious sink was contrived, over which a cistern for sterilised water hung. To keep flies away from basins of lotion and dressings, etc., light frames of wood stretched

with gauze formed an excellent protection. The operating table was of iron, and folded for packing. Everything displayed thought and economy, and yet many of the appliances would have been considered luxuries if brought all the way from Japan. Dr. Kumura took endless trouble in showing me the various details, not only of the original outfit brought up by them, but many clever things made by the instrument man, who is always attached to the military hospitals, and is responsible for the sharpening and repairing of instruments ; he must also be skilled in tinkering. He explained that they only brought the bare necessities for a big stationary hospital like this, depending upon their working staff to supply them with everything extra. Through this means they were able to keep their transport exceedingly light. Biscuit-tins play a most important part. An order is issued forbidding them to be thrown away —not that anything is ever *thrown away* by a Japanese. These biscuit-tins are large, very much the same shape as those that strewed the camping-grounds in Natal. Out of them are made, and thoroughly well-made, the following articles: Kettles, basins, pails, soiled dressing tins and appliances for nursing, as well as many culinary utensils, which cost practically nothing ; they are easily replenished, and when worn out are carefully buried. The refuse also which cannot be burnt is

we were to depart. We reached home in time for dinner. Madame Kuroda had very kindly arranged the table, collecting up all the spoons and forks she could find, and had placed in the middle a large bunch of pink peonies, which had been sent by our officers from their little garden, the only flowers growing there. Our cook rose to the occasion and gave us a sumptuous repast: tinned soup, stewed chicken, and tinned vegetables, roast duck (caught from the by-ways and hedges), a tin of asparagus, and cold caramel custards, which called forth much delight. Just as we were nearing the end of dinner, a card was brought from one of the officers of the staff saying he had heard we were having a dinner-party, and thinking we might be rather "cramped" for wine, he hoped that the two bottles of champagne and the bottle of *crême de menthe*, which he was sending by the messenger, would be acceptable. We were all greatly touched by his kind thought. I hastily wrote a note of grateful thanks, but at the same time returned the two bottles of champagne. The *crême de menthe* we kept, and much enjoyed. At the end of the meal one of the men leant back comfortably in his chair, and, heaving a sigh of content, remarked that he felt as if he had dined with a Rothschild. We sat round the table talking long after dinner was over. All were charmed with Madame Kuroda and her quick sense of

humour. How the men laughed and talked, telling stories one against the other! Colonel Hume told us a most amusing one against Sir Ian and himself. One day, as they were walking round their little Chinese garden, they spied two fat peony buds, and they began to wonder how long it would take before they came out. This led to an argument, and then to betting. Each man selected what he thought the most promising one. Every morning they visited them, but one morning, Colonel Hume being absent, Sir Ian happened to look more carefully at his adversary's bud. His suspicions were aroused that it was having a little assistance. The next morning Colonel Hume's bud was certainly gaining; so while he was away Sir Ian consulted with Captain Vincent, and procuring a very thin piece of red silk thread, he carefully tied it round the peony. Colonel Hume, again on a tampering expedition the next morning, was surprised to find his own bud still closed, and Sir Ian's opened. The little silk thread was soon discovered, and grave accusations were brought forward; but in the end Colonel Hume had to own that a pin had occasionally been inserted into his, and in other little ways assistance given. Before they left I brought out my medicine chest which had been so thoughtfully given to me by Sir Francis Laking before I left England, and presented it to Colonel Hume, as they were

ENTRANCE TO TEMPORARY HOSPITAL AT FANG-HWANG-CHÊNG.

completely without drugs, and he was considered the "doctor" of the party. Discovering their comforts were scarce, we made up our minds to make a collection of all the things we could spare and send them round in the morning. All pleasant episodes must have an end. At 10.30 they took their leave, having to be up very early the next morning, as they were to visit the outposts, and we had our packing to do for our return journey.

CHAPTER VI.

THE RETURN.

Thursday, June 9th.

AT 7.30 a.m. we started for our officers' quarters with a few things we were now able to dispense with. We thought we knew our way, but to our surprise found we had entered the Headquarter Staff, and were opposite General Kuroki's temple. Immediately one of the senior officers came out. We felt not a little embarrassed, remembering that not twenty-four hours before we had been received with so much ceremony. The officer asked if there was anything he could do for us, and looked much amused on seeing the conglomeration of things we held in our arms. He kindly explained to our guard where we wished to be conducted. The gifts were received with much thankfulness. I was able to take a snapshot of our four attachés as they stood in their doorway, and after making our adieux we saw them mount and ride off on their early expedition. On walking back to our dwelling, we realised that a very delightful time had come to an end, and what a pleasant feeling of friendship we had for each other on so short an acquaintance. We

found Madame Kuroda and breakfast waiting for us. Just as we were finishing General Fugii came to say good-bye, and expressed a hope that when he came to London he might call. Several of the officers also came to say farewell. At last we stepped into our chairs, and with many feelings of sincere and deep regret, turned our back on the house where we had spent such an interesting and enjoyable time. The same people who had received us accompanied us to the banks of the river. There our formal adieux were said, and we once more started and were carried across, the Chinese yelling and shouting at getting their feet wet. So this was our first step towards England! But we hardly seemed to realise this, as it seemed so far off. The heat was tremendous, and after about two hours our men had to have a rest. As we were waiting I was informed there had been a skirmish on the 7th some little distance from Fang-hwang-chêng. I had suspected it from various causes, but as no one mentioned it I thought I must be mistaken; but the reason for keeping it so quiet was, I discovered later, that the authorities did not wish it discussed in Fang-hwang-chêng. I felt distressed that they had not trusted our attachés more fully, even if it were unwise to let all the foreigners into their secrets—surely they should have placed confidence in allies. This secretive depth on both

large and small matters is perhaps one of the most difficult traits for Europeans to understand in the Japanese, and has often called forth righteous indignation. They certainly have the most surprising way of making mysteries out of the merest trifles. Sometimes I have thought it is due to the fact that they are over-sensitive and afraid of ridicule, keeping back matters which it would be far wiser to be perfectly frank about. Again we renewed our acquaintance with the little transport men. How familiar they seemed to us this time! The sun was tremendously strong now, and I felt very sorry for our chair-bearers, also our guard, but they managed to have many a lift in empty transport waggons. At last we arrived at the little camp To-san-jo, where we found the tents much as we had left them, and a warm welcome from Major Honma, who seemed really glad to see us again. It was an exquisite evening, and the view more lovely than ever, as the sun was setting. Truly a very peaceful scene to look upon, with the little camp hospital secreted in the hollow of the hill. All through the fine starlight night the nightingale sang, and frogs kept up an incessant chorus; a perfect place to camp in, and the night seemed all too short.

Friday, June 10th.

A glorious morning, but we had no time to linger as we had to get well on our way before the heat of the day. It was sad to feel this eventful time slipping away little by little. Our next resting-place was Rō-ko-tō. Major Soga gave us an excellent luncheon, and two or three of the officers joined our party, all being anxious to hear what we had been doing. I had a long talk with Major Soga about their soldiers wearing boots, and he told me that they provided socks and sandals when their feet became sore. They only last about ten days, but that is quite sufficient time for their feet to heal. By this simple means many a man was saved falling out, and as far as possible it was always arranged that some socks and sandals should be taken or kept at various depôts, as at this camp. He gave me a set to take back, for which I was glad, as I had a hope that some similar idea might be introduced into our army, for there can be no disguising the fact that many of our men suffer tortures from the unnecessarily heavy, clumsy and ill-fitting boots with which they are provided. The Japanese troops wear a far superior boot, made from good leather, well cut, and scarcely weighing three pounds per pair. I also brought back a sample of these excellent boots. Later in the afternoon we passed a hot spring,

which was about to be converted into a bath-house for the soldiers. On entering Antong we found it in clouds of dust, for the wind had risen—such a contrast to the sea of mud of only ten days ago! We were very loth at having to come back to this place, but there were no other means by which to reach the Yalu. It seemed more squalid and dirty in contrast to the beautiful country we had just passed through. The people looked filthier than ever, but our house, if anything, felt cleaner, owing to the dry weather. I extracted a promise from the officers that we should not wait here longer than was absolutely necessary, so they arranged for us to return in the first empty transport.

Saturday, June 11th.

The morning we spent in writing numerous letters to the officials who had shown us so much kindness on our way up to Fang-hwang-chêng, but with the greatest difficulty, for our note-paper would scarcely go round, and it was impossible to procure anything but yards of Japanese notepaper; but we were fortunate enough to be given postcards, issued by the Government for the use of the troops only. Of course, even these cards had to go before the censor. I bought, during the afternoon, some paper money, issued by the Government to pay the coolies during the war, which goes down to the most trifling sum. Various people

THE HOT SPRING.

came to congratulate us on our safe return, including Colonel Kakisaki, who expressed much delight that our visit to the front had been so successful. Madame Kuroda was as sorry as we were that our expedition was so nearly over. I must say she stood the whole thing like a Briton, always showing herself indefatigable in trying to make things as comfortable as possible for us. She was most unselfish; indeed, we had been more than fortunate in having such a companion. The greatest credit is due to her, as she was the first Japanese woman to have ever undertaken such an unusual and rough mission. We now felt that as we were on the eve of departure there could be no further excitement in store for us, and I made up my mind to try to do as much writing as possible before reaching Tokio. Late in the evening we heard we were about to sail the next morning in the *Heijo Maru*, a small transport which was bringing over two messengers who had been sent to enquire after the health of the army at the front by the Emperor.

Sunday, June 12th. "*Heijo Maru.*"

Up at 5.30 a.m. A very misty morning —which caused delay in starting, as it was impossible for the small steam-launch to proceed down the river, the danger of sticking on sand-banks being too great. General Shibouya sent many messages of regret that he

was unable to see us off, but he had been obliged to go the day before to meet the messengers. Once more we formed a long procession from this house, but for the last time. Taguchi, still clinging to his frock-coat, walked first, carrying miscellaneous bundles; Miss St. Aubyn, myself, and Colonel Kakisaki followed, also Madame Kuroda, with several officers, as well as the soldiers who had formed our guard up-country. A strange feeling of regret came over us as we watched from the tug the little group of officers who were waving and calling out friendly adieux in broken English, and as we slowly moved away from the wharf our send-off was very hearty. The three nationalities who had witnessed our arrival again formed a curious background, the Japanese in their new khaki, the Chinese in their blue linen, and the Koreans in their so-called white, not mixing together, but each keeping to their own nationality. Dr. Murai and an officer of the staff accompanied us on the launch. As rain had commenced, we took shelter in the cabin, where we had to perform the same acrobatic feats as on coming up. Just as we were nearing Riu-ang-po we unfortunately stuck on a mud-bank, owing to having missed the tide. There was nothing for it but to remain there for four hours; but about 6.30 p.m. we found ourselves able to go alongside the little Japanese transport, the *Heijo Maru*, which was to take us to Japan.

She was crowded with men waiting to disembark. The captain, an exceedingly small man even for a Japanese, and unable to speak a word of English, made a long speech to Madame Kuroda, saying he feared we should suffer, as they had no European food on board. Our hearts literally sank, as we had been up since dawn, and had practically had nothing but a few cold boiled eggs and army or sweet biscuits all day; but our cook rose to the occasion, and unpacked one of the cases we were returning to the War Office, and found a tin of soup and some corned beef. Of course, bread was out of the question, but we had been getting accustomed to this for some time. Of the many and various ships we had been in, this one was certainly the most unique. It was fitted up in European style, and managed entirely by Japanese.

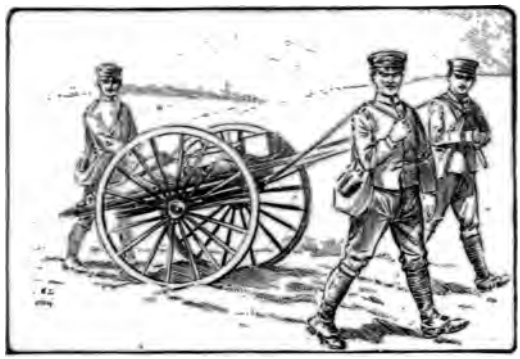
Monday, June 13th.

Our breakfast—a poor meal—was soon over. As we seemed likely to be on this ship some days, there being no prospect of her starting till to-morrow, I thought it a fitting opportunity to put together my notes. During the day the transport men all left, and 136 patients took their places.

Tuesday, June 14th. "*Heijo Maru.*"

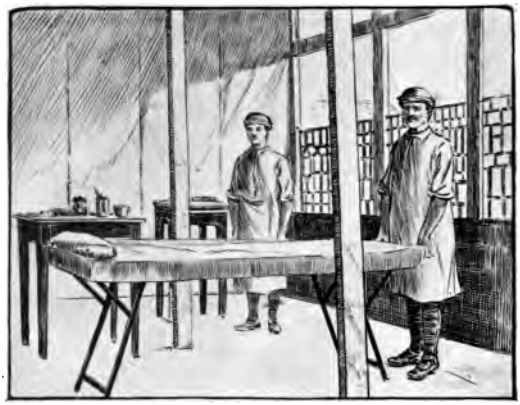
We left at 6 a.m. for Ujina. After breakfast we settled to our writing, but a smell

which I had noticed yesterday suddenly became so appalling that I insisted on Madame going and interviewing the sailors. She came back saying it was very bad, but that there was a reason for it, as they were returning a large cargo of salt fish, which they had taken out for the consumption of the soldiers at Antong. On finding it was bad, instead of throwing it away they were bringing it back to the firm from whom it came. The reason of our getting such gusts of smell was that every day they went to inspect the progress of decomposition. This may have been quite necessary, but it took away our appetites, which, no doubt, was just as well, there being little European food. During the afternoon a heavy fog came on. This is very prevalent in the Korean Sea, making it dangerous. It increased greatly, and we could hear a steamer blowing her fog-horn incessantly; so after taking soundings the captain decided to anchor, and we remained in this mist-world for the rest of the day and far into the night. Another anxiety awaited us; the food, such as it was, was not likely to hold out. Our army biscuits had given out the first day, so now we were entirely dependent on rice. The captain sent messages of apology for not proceeding, but said he felt a "great responsibility, having us on board," and therefore had anchored. We were sorry for this delay—for the patients, many of whom looked very ill, and as if they



JAPANESE HAND TRANSPORT-CARTS.

(*From a photograph.*)



OPERATING-ROOM IN CHINESE HOUSE AT ANTONG.

(*From a photograph.*)

wanted nursing. It was a trying time for everyone; and Madame Kuroda, who was a bad sailor, had taken to her bunk, so gesticulating and pointing were the only means of expressing our wants.

Wednesday, June 15th.

At an early hour we started, the fog having completely disappeared, rain taking its place, so that we had to have the tiny saloon practically closed up, which did not lessen the horror of the decomposing fish. The fog had delayed us many hours, but we intended, when we did reach Moji, to go ashore and have a real good English meal at the hotel, which had provided such an excellent tea the first time we landed. In the ordinary course of events this ship takes double the time of the *Hakuai Maru*. Alas! we had many regrets for that excellent ship. The afternoon turned out to be bright, so we took advantage of it, and sat on deck, and discussed our up-country trip and the squalor and dirt of Antong, that "poisonous hole," as our attachés called it. How we escaped with anything like health after having stayed there was astonishing, and I could not help feeling sad that the soldiers should be brought into such a place to be nursed. It was very nice our having 136 patients on board, who were already beginning to look much better for the sea air, and it was interesting to see the way in

which their meals were served; the rice, which was beautifully cooked, was placed in red lacquer boxes, similar to the small Japanese trays we see in England. On the top of the rice were placed various pickled vegetables. To us there would be a great sameness in this, but the patients enjoyed it immensely. That the Japanese reared on this diet have proved splendid and enduring fighters for hundreds of years cannot be refuted; it is yet to be seen whether the introduction of meat two or three times a week will further improve their physique and powers of endurance as much as is hoped and anticipated. So far they do not care particularly for foreign rations. No Japanese is contented unless he can have rice twice or three times a day; and I have often seen well-to-do Japanese, after a good European meal, eat a basinful—not that they are in the least greedy, but they feel unsatisfied without it. Our cook was sea-sick, and our boy informed us in the following words: "Cook half sick; can cook no more." So we bowed to circumstances.

Thursday, June 16th.

In the Korean Straits. There was still a little swell, but it was gradually quieting down, so we hoped soon to have Madame Kuroda on deck again. During the morning a Japanese torpedo boat passed, skimming along at a tremendous rate. We spent the

whole day writing, as I was most anxious to have all my Red Cross notes finished by the time I arrived in Tokio. Late in the evening we entered the Japanese Sea. The roll again increased, and everyone was more or less sick, and on asking for dinner we were told that the cook was quite too ill to give us anything; but we fared better than usual, for a tin of hotch-potch soup had been found at the bottom of the packing-case. That, with plenty of rice, proved an excellent meal, and the captain found that he had half a bottle of whisky, which had been left by the Emperor's messengers. This he very kindly gave to us; but one try was enough. It was the most extraordinary mixture. The messengers must have been very strong men to have drunk it and lived to enquire after the health of the troops. To-morrow we hope our discomforts will be at an end.

Friday, June 17th. "*Heijo Maru.*"

Last night proved to be one of much excitement. We had just turned in, when suddenly our vessel came to an abrupt standstill. Thinking something unusual was taking place, I got up and put my head out of the port, but failed to satisfy my curiosity, and was just thinking I was exciting myself unnecessarily when Madame Kuroda came hastily in, followed by Miss St. Aubyn. She informed us

we had been ordered to stop by some unseen vessel. Here, indeed, was excitement, and at the eleventh hour! We could distinguish the captain's voice calling out *Heijo Maru*, and caught the word "Russian." Simultaneously lights sprang up round us, revealing several torpedo-boats. In a few minutes, Madame, who had her head out of the port, was able to inform us the reason of this abrupt interruption. We had been stopped by Japanese torpedo-boats, for our position was dangerous, as the Vladivostock fleet was supposed to be at no great distance, therefore the continuance of our journey was impossible. Our excitement, which had been intense, now waned, giving place to a feeling of irritation at having to wait in total ignorance of all that was being said until Madame Kuroda could gain sufficient information to interpret. Presently a message was brought informing us of the state of affairs, adding that we were to steam back as fast as possible towards the naval harbour of Takeshiki, in the Island of Tsushima; at the same time we were told we were expected to dress and be ready for the greatest emergencies, and advised that any papers or valuables we wished to conceal should be collected, ready to throw overboard if we fell into the hands of the Russians. "Lights out" was the next order; immediately total darkness prevailed. Dressing in such circumstances was no easy

task, and still more difficult was it to find papers from bags and boxes; but I managed to tie up a small bundle, after which we sat down to await events. Growing impatient at Madame's not rejoining us, I made my way to her cabin, as I had suspected she was preparing for the worst, taking a most gloomy view of the situation. She owned to having on her the little Japanese dagger she had previously shown us, and without which no Japanese woman is supposed to travel abroad, adding at the same time that if anything happened to us she would use it, as she would have failed in her mission, which was to bring us safely back to Japan, and she would be justified in committing "hirai-kirai"; or, if she fell into the hands of the Russians and had to answer questions, she would resort to this means. Quiet and determined as she was on this subject, I was still more determined, and would have taken the dagger away by force if necessary. But say what people will, there is a fine heroic sentiment in this hypersense of duty. Her sacrifice would have been great, as she had two young sons to whom she was devoted, and a husband for whom she openly expressed affection, which is rare in Japanese women. It was trying waiting through the long hours of darkness; but we talked at intervals, and did a good deal of thinking. We both felt very sorry for our captain, who did not look like a

man who could stand much strain, and we could hear constant orders being called from the torpedo-boats. Everything has its amusing side, and we felt very ridiculous sitting on our trunks in the dark with bundles on our knees. At the end of what seemed many hours, but was in reality not more than three and a half, we found, on looking out, that we were nearing land, and in the far distance three very strong searchlights were lighting up the sky and water. Gradually, as we approached, they turned the lights on the ship; they were so strong that Miss St. Aubyn could read her small watch. It was just 3 a.m. when we dropped anchor. Searchlights revealed what seemed to be a most beautiful harbour, and very thankful we were to be in safety; so, feeling we deserved a little rest, we lay down, not daring to discuss how exhausted we both were, for our dinner had not been calculated to stay the pangs of hunger for long. On waking we eagerly looked out, and were not disappointed in the beauties of our surroundings. They far exceeded the impressions of the night before. The colouring of this island was wonderful. The mountains were thickly wooded, trees growing down to the water's edge. In a tiny bay nestled a Japanese village. On this particular day there was not a ripple on the sea, and it had taken the shades of mother-of-pearl or opal, in which these green trees

were vividly reflected. Although the circumstances were trying, it was with pleasure that we looked forward to landing and exploring the Island of Tsushima. We saw five other transports, which had met the same fate as our own. A pleasant surprise awaited us on arriving at breakfast. We found the captain had thoughtfully sent off and purchased a loaf of bread. We enjoyed it very much, as it was the first good bread we had had since leaving Japan. While we were at breakfast a doctor was sent by the admiral to call. He spoke English, and brought the news of an appalling disaster to three Japanese transports, which had been fired on and sunk by the Vladivostock fleet only a few miles off Moji on the 15th inst. on their way to Korea, and it was believed that the fleet were still cruising about in Japanese waters, but, owing to fog, they had so far escaped. This, then, was the reason we had to put back. The naval officers were having a terribly anxious time, which had not been lessened by the knowledge that we were on a transport, and that the Russians were giving no quarter. But for the fog which detained us in the Korean Straits, we must inevitably have met with them. The Admiral, we learnt, had already despatched a telegram informing the War Office of our safety. Though little was said, we could see there was great relief at our being in the harbour. After luncheon, we started in a rowing-boat for the

shore to call on Admiral Tsunoda, and thank him for the care taken of us during the night. He was a typical naval man, about fifty-five, and most English in his greeting. Without bowing, he at once shook hands. He received us in his charming Japanese house, which commanded a splendid view of the harbour. As he spoke no English, Madame interpreted; but, as in the case of General Manabé, one felt it was very little hindrance to conversation. He confirmed the report of the terrible disaster, and congratulated us on being safe. He also gave us the latest details of war news. A battle had been fought on the 15th with great success to the Japanese, commencing at dawn and lasting till four o'clock in the afternoon, the Russians having been intercepted on their way to relieve their comrades at Port Arthur, with great loss of life on both sides. The Japanese owned to a thousand, and the Russians five hundred killed and three hundred prisoners. We also learnt that the Russians did not always conform to the rules of war, and in this last engagement were actually found waving the Japanese flag to deceive their enemy. The Admiral suggested taking us for a run in his launch to see something of the island, and said he would show us what he considered one of the most beautiful places in the world—Kurosé. No one, unless belonging to the Admiralty, is allowed to enter. To his knowledge no woman, except

the wife of an English admiral, had ever been there. Photographs were not allowed to be taken in any circumstances whatever, therefore this place was little known to the outer world, except as a name on the map. Steaming slowly down, in and out of the winding creek, the scenery surpassed anything we had yet come across; every bend opened up a fresh vista of loveliness. High, rocky cliffs towered straight out of the water, covered with many varieties of trees and delicate foliage, with here and there bright yellow flowers relieving the green. The silence was absolute, and it seemed like sacrilege to disturb its serenity by taking anything so mundane as a steam-launch into such a place. But to describe its beauty is impossible. It was full of romance, and suitable only to hold some mysterious, mediæval legend; but for over half an hour we glided slowly along, and then reluctantly turned. After the anxious night we had passed, the contrast of this silent and peaceful harbour was all the more enjoyable, and seemed to put our recent anxieties far away. On our return journey we were regaled with some excellent champagne, which the admiral had brought on board. Arriving at the wharf, we said good-bye to our kind host. We then visited the only shop in the place and bought three note-books, a tin of biscuits, and a pot of jam. Taguchi bought a pair of yellow cotton gloves—a part of his

costume which he thought very English, and was never seen without. Returning to our vessel, I received a message saying that the torpedo-boats which had been out all day reconnoitring reported all was safe, and that in all probability we should start for Ujina to-night, but the hour would finally be settled by the admiral later on.

Saturday, June 18th. Heijo Maru.

At 5 a.m. this morning the order came for us to proceed to Ujina. We were sorry to say good-bye to this beautiful island, which fate had so curiously allowed us to see. About eleven o'clock we passed close to the place where the disaster of the 15th had occurred; but for the delay of the fog in the Korean Straits we must have been, if not victims, at least unwilling witnesses of this terrible slaughter. Our transport, though practically a hospital ship, was without sign to distinguish her as such; therefore, had she come in contact with the Russian fleet we must inevitably have met with the same treatment. The *Heijo Maru* was the first to cross these waters since the catastrophe, and we fully realised how wonderful our escape had been. The dull, cold, grey sea lying before us made a grand shroud for those three thousand men beneath it, giving fitting expression to the solemn benediction which instinctively rose to one's mind: "The peace that passeth all

understanding." As we slowly steamed towards Moji, we met sad evidence being rapidly borne along by the current: sea-chests, horse-troughs, straw, and large pieces of wood, all of which was painful. We were especially thankful for our little Japanese friend, who was deeply moved, in spite of her determined self-control, that we saw no human form. Nearing Moji we passed the transports, crowded with troops, on their way to Korea, but this time escorted by torpedo-boats; it was most upsetting waving farewell to these brave men, who returned it very heartily.

The tension of our sympathetic feelings was abruptly arrested by catching sight of the grotesque figure of the captain, who was vigorously waving his white-crowned hat, whilst his black mackintosh hung loosely from his shoulders; the starched evening waistcoat and white striped flannel trousers, held up by brown leather belt, were continually parting company. Gum-boots, into which his trousers were tucked, completed what he thought an extremely European get-up, but looked to us a cut between a tripper on the Margate sands and a Moore and Burgess minstrel. This quaint little figure, scarcely five feet high, represented our captain, who had taken us so successfully into the harbour of Tsushima that eventful night of the 16th, and to whom we must always owe a debt of gratitude. In the harbour of Moji we saw

the masts of a sunken vessel which, on the night of the 15th, collided with the *Shikoku Maru*, sinking immediately; this caused the *Shikoku Maru* to drag her anchor, and unfortunately to drift into a man-of-war which was just starting for the scene of the disaster. What an extraordinary chapter of misfortune and ill-luck these twenty-four hours proved to the Japanese!

Sunday, June 19th. Heijo Maru.

At 4 a.m. we left for Ujina, after a long evening of coaling. The opportunity of again seeing this cleanly and ingenious work did not lessen my feeling that women should not take part in it; indeed, it strengthened my first impression, especially after the high opinion I had now been able to form of Japanese women. The day was perfect, and the beauties of the inland sea doubly apparent in the sunshine. What an affection one conceives for it! On first sight it does not appeal with its full meaning. Almost timid in its surroundings, with colouring so tender and delicate as to appear insipid, when once fully understood it reveals a harmony of loveliness which only Japan can show you. The patients enjoyed it as much as we did; they seemed very happy in recognising the different villages along the coast. It was pleasant to see their preparations for landing: some mending clothes, others, who had done a little washing, hanging it

out to dry. Anything like the cleanliness of these people I have never seen; they even go so far as to scrub their feet with a scrubbing brush. They put our soldiers to shame in this respect, and a Japanese with unbrushed teeth is a thing you never see. Every soldier has a tooth-brush, and he generally keeps it in the crown of his hat. The very poorest brush their teeth, so it must be doubly hard to those married women who think it their duty to black their teeth to make them less attractive; but I am glad to say the custom is at last beginning to die out. I told Madame Kuroda and Taguchi that I wished to return to Japan as quietly as possible, but no sooner had we reached Ujina than an officer was sent to meet us. The harbour was very busy, as hundreds of men were embarking on transports, and every preparation being hastily pushed forward. Here we learnt that the disaster was not quite so terrible as we had at first been led to believe. Though hundreds of lives had been lost, the number did not amount to three thousand. About 4 p.m. we said good-bye to the *Heijo Maru*. We returned to the little hotel in which we had stayed on our way down, and found they could take us in, but this time in true Japanese style. We drove up to be received by the whole establishment on their knees, and after many graceful greetings we were allowed to enter our rooms, which were the same as we had had before,

with the exception that everything foreign had disappeared, which was exactly what we wanted. The sunset was beautiful, and as we sat on our balcony, which hung over the river, we enjoyed again the picturesque scene. On retiring for the night we found our rooms had been turned into a mosquito net maze. They were practically enveloped in net, veritable ceilings of which had been stretched and held up at the four corners by cords attached to the walls; and from it clouds of net hung thickly down, rolling upon the floor, the edges being prettily trimmed with crimson silk. In the centre of this was the so-called bed, consisting of thickly-wadded *duvets*, which proved exceedingly comfortable; but what I enjoyed inexpressibly was being able to have the whole side of my room open, and through this misty haze of net watch the dark river, now dotted with many-coloured Japanese lanterns; and the last thing I remember was the weird "tumming" of their musical instrument, the "samisen," as it rose and fell on the night air.

Monday, June 20th. Hiroshima.

Scarcely had we finished our breakfast when General Manabé and the Governor called to congratulate us on our safe return, and we accepted an invitation to tea that afternoon with Mrs. Manabé. There is no special time for this meal; it is a continual feast, so

we paid our call early. General Manabé met us at the entrance—of course, in his stockinged feet—and he very politely made a suggestion that we should take off our shoes. We were then conducted into a most charming Japanese house and introduced to his wife, who was waiting for us at the foot of the few stairs. She was a handsome little woman, and I was glad to see her in her native dress. Our host then conducted us up the miniature staircase into a room where tea was waiting. We were much amused to see that neither his wife nor Madame Kuroda dared to touch theirs until they had received permission from the general, and it was most extraordinary how little the wife entertained us except in perpetually handing round tea and cakes. One certainly understands the literal utterance of a Japanese on introducing his wife to an Englishman, "Allow me to present to you my very inferior wife." True to Japanese custom, the whole family came in to see us, including the married daughters with their children. We were delighted and interested in being allowed to see this family life, for foreigners are not often admitted into the domestic circle. The women had the sweetest of manners; they did a great deal of laughing, but very little talking. Madame was kept hard at work interpreting, and General Manabé asked to be allowed to give us each his photograph. He then said he had done this in order to be

able to ask for ours. Before leaving, he conducted us all over the house, even to the kitchen. Everything was very pretty and dainty, but so small and fragile it was impossible to believe a man could live in this "doll's house." All the family came to the door to see us off. This time, as well as bowing, they shook hands. We were charmed with our visit. We next called on the Governor and his wife. The Governor was out, but his wife received us in the European part of the house, which was so out of keeping with this gentle, tiny little Japanese lady as to appear almost grotesque. We then rode through the long streets of Hiroshima to the Red Cross depôt—a building on the banks of the river. I had made sundry efforts to see this place, and had always been put off; but hearing it was near here I was determined to see it, and was well rewarded for my pertinacity, as I found everything the picture of tidiness and the organisation of the best. This depôt is the storehouse, where all goods for the sick and wounded are sent after having been collected throughout the country by the various Red Cross Society's agents. Such a depôt or office I ventured some years ago to suggest in my article on "Army Nursing" in the *Nineteenth Century*.

Nothing superfluous or useless is sent to the front, neither are promiscuous or private parcels allowed. It is obvious that this system

must save an enormous amount of confusion. Private parcels have no chance of arriving at their destination unless sent through the Red Cross offices. I learnt afterwards that the reason they did not care for me to see the depôt was that they thought I should despise such a rough-and-ready building. I often noticed that these people were shy, and reluctant to show what they considered not up to perfection; their dread of foreigners scoffing is very real. Though their ideals are so high, they have not always the means to carry them out; but this warehouse was most suitable for the purpose intended, which was a temporary storehouse. On our return to the hotel, a message was sent up to know if we would like to see two of the rescued officers from the *Sado Maru*. Of course we were much pleased to receive them, and as they entered we were impressed by their appearance. They both looked worn and haggard, showing they had just passed through some great ordeal. They offered to tell us some of their experiences if we cared to hear them. Major Yamaguchi and Captain Ketominé gave us the following details, occasionally illustrating by diagrams their meaning. The story took some time to relate, but was so deeply interesting that it appeared short.

Description of the disaster on June 15th, 1904, to the transports which were sunk by the Vladivostock fleet off Moji, as related by Major Yamaguchi and Captain Ketominé, in a Japanese hotel at Hiroshima, before Miss St. Aubyn, Madame Kuroda, and myself.

STORY.

"On Wednesday, June 15th, about 9.30 a.m., thirty miles off Moji, our three transports were steaming quietly along, having just left for Korea. Our vessel, the *Sado Maru*, was somewhat ahead, when through the mist we were surprised to see three vessels approaching. It was impossible to distinguish what nationality they were; but as there was nothing to arouse our suspicions, we continued our course until we were fairly near. Suddenly our vessel, the *Sado Maru*, received a cannon-ball on her starboard side, which passed straight through her. Now we knew the meaning of these ships; the Russians were upon us, and we realised the danger we were in. The *Hitachi Maru* was under the command of Captain Campbell, who, seeing what was happening, attempted to rush the position. The water was pouring into our vessel, so the men were set to work at the pumps. Heavy bombarding was being kept up. We therefore decided that the non-fighting men, of which our ship was full (railway coolies and artisans), should take to the boats, and officers

and soldiers should remain ; and if the Russians attempted to take us prisoners we should destroy ourselves, as it was impossible to save everyone's life, and to drown was not a soldier's death. The Russians then signalled that the ship must be abandoned within forty minutes. Not considering this sufficient for the men to be got into the boats, we asked for longer time, but our request was refused. Great confusion ensued trying to lower the boats, owing to the disappearance of the captain. Whilst busily engaged in trying to perform this duty, several Russian officers came on board, demanding our surrender. The officers on returning to their vessel took the chief mate, who was also a foreigner, with them. The captain, we supposed, had also been rescued by the Russians, as the last we saw of him he was taking off his cap and coat and preparing to swim. The lack of a superior officer in the management of lowering the boats was disastrous. Now, seeing our position was helpless, we officers determined to restore order and face death, as became us. Going below, we opened some bottles of champagne, and all stood round and had a last drink together ; then, returning to the deck, called the men round us to take their stand bravely. As we watched the bombardment, which had commenced again, we saw coming towards us a torpedo, which we knew must be the end. We all raised a mighty " Banzai " for our

Emperor, and stood with our swords and pistols, ready to take our lives when the moment of sinking should arrive. What was our surprise to find, a few minutes later, that we were not sinking. The torpedo had done comparatively little harm, passing somewhat to the left of the hole where the first shot had struck, and it had only enlarged the aperture, and beyond a severe drenching, no one was hurt.

"The *Hitachi Maru*, we saw, was being terribly pressed. The effect of the firing was so good that she sank before our eyes. We feared none had escaped; the third transport had entirely disappeared. To our utter amazement, we saw the Russians preparing to leave. Thinking we must sink, and fearing detection, they were hurrying away. We consulted together, and determined to save our lives if possible, now that we had escaped falling into the hands of the Russians. We stopped the water from pouring in as far as possible, then took all the spare wood, including tables, and chests, and spent the rest of the day hammering together rafts, but as night came on, finding we were comparatively safe on the ship, we decided to stay where we were. All night we kept a sharp look-out for any vessel that might pass. In the morning we found we had drifted towards an island, but as yet we had seen no vessel. At 7.30 a.m., nearly twenty-four hours after the disaster, a ship

came in sight, and seeing our deplorable condition, immediately came to us. She proved to be full of cargo—coal and oil—which, before she could be of any use to us, had to be thrown overboard. Whilst this was being done a small sailing vessel reached us, which had picked up fifty of the men from the *Hitachi Maru*. Some had terrible shell-wounds, and one was already dead in the bottom of the boat. It was in many cases with great difficulty that we lifted the sufferers on board, but we had a doctor with us, who did all in his power to relieve their sufferings. When the cargo had been discharged, we placed the wounded on board, then the men, ourselves following, and were taken back to Moji."

The Japanese are unanimous in praising the heroic behaviour of Captain Campbell, of the *Hitachi Maru*, and his officers. This captain, who had the lower parts of both his legs blown away, ordered a chair to be brought, and sitting, gave commands in the calmest manner until the *Hitachi Maru* sank. There is to be a public monument to this fine Englishman, I believe, in Tokio. As the story finished we longed to ask many questions, and this was one of the occasions when we regretted not understanding the language; and we felt the telling of the story lost much. The hours of suffering, which had left such marked traces, made us sympathise very deeply with these two brave men. This sink-

ing of these transports had caused a great sensation here, and grave criticisms are passed on Admiral Kamimura. To-morrow we leave for Matsuyama ; we have to be out of the hotel by 7 a.m., not returning until after midnight.

Tuesday, June 21st. Matsuyama.

We left the hotel at 7 a.m. for Ujina, accompanied by Madame Kuroda and Taguchi. Even at this early hour, we were met on the wharf by the head of the Red Cross Society and various policemen. The air was full of war news and rumours of fighting near Moji, and all ships had been stopped from leaving for the front. Once more we found ourselves in a little Japanese steamer, but this time it was only a matter of a few hours. During the morning we had out the luncheon basket ; but as they had forgotten at the hotel to put half the food in we had to content ourselves with hard-boiled eggs and bread. About eleven o'clock the Island of Shikoku came in sight, looking much larger than I had expected. On the seashore we could discern large numbers of people awaiting us, which was not a little surprising, as I had particularly requested that our visit should be kept as quiet as possible. The officer commanding the district, the head of the Red Cross Society, and the head of the police, all came off in a san-pan to meet us. The steamer had to anchor some way out

owing to the tide, so we got in their boat, and were taken to the shore. The Governor of the Island, and indeed all the important people, had very kindly come to offer us a welcome, including the Ladies' Volunteer Nursing Association (all dressed alike in their black and blue uniform), and were drawn up in a line on the beach. I had to go along this line trying to bow separately to each one. My shoes were full of stones and sand, as with every step I took I sank ankle-deep into the fine shingle, which did not add to my dignity or comfort. A little tea-house had been arranged further up the beach to which we were taken. I learnt that though we were in the Island of Shikoku we had still half an hour's journey before we arrived at the town of Matsuyama, where the hospitals and prisoners were to be seen. A misunderstanding had arisen, the Governor not knowing that I wished to see the Russian prisoners as well as the wounded; he could not give permission for the latter without the consent of the War Office, so I immediately despatched Taguchi to the telegraph office to obtain the necessary permission. The railway station was only a few minutes from the beach, so without further delay we walked across to find the smallest station and the smallest train I should think in existence; it all looked like a pocket edition. Extra carriages had been added to the train for our party, as almost everyone

who had come to meet us was proceeding to the town of Matsuyama, which was reached in about half an hour's time. On alighting from the train we found the platform thronged with people, and there was so much introducing and talking I thought we should never attain the object of our visit. Outside the station the crowd was much larger ; four hundred school-girls alone were assembled with their teachers, and the head of the school was brought up to be introduced. The girls were all in their usual Japanese costume, but over it they were wearing the maroon pleated skirt, the adopted school-girl's dress, and very quaint and demure they looked as they stood in lines, each side of the station road. Rikshas were awaiting us, and we at once prepared to start, a long procession being formed. I was begged to acknowledge as much as possible the welcome we were receiving, especially to the girls. This sounds a simple request, but unless the formality of Japanese bowing is known, it is impossible to realise how difficult it is to return salutations from the cramped position of a riksha. However, I did my best, as I felt how kind it was that so much trouble should have been taken on our behalf. The day was very hot, and we felt it very much, as it was a long ride through the town. The rikshas made a tremendous noise as we rattled along, the unwonted disturbance in this quiet, sleepy place bringing the peasants to their doors. Flags

were hanging everywhere, the whole place had a gala effect, as our visit was expected. As we passed along street after street, we had time to notice that we were in one of the prettiest towns or large villages we had yet seen in Japan, the hand of the western world having not yet reached it. Matsuyama is innately Japanese; there are only two foreign missionaries living here—Mrs. Byron and Miss Palmeri, who also came to meet us. A fine old castle, situated on a high hill, looked down on the town, and was now used by the military as a garrison. The first visit we made was to the Red Cross Hospital. The patients here, it was explained, were not the ordinary prisoners of war, but men rescued by the French during the naval fight at Chemulpho. The hospital, which was well placed on a hill, spoke of much comfort and perfect cleanliness. Each patient had a room to himself, with European bed and furniture, and all that could conduce to the comfort of these men had been lavishly provided. Flowers had been most generously given, and many sacred prints so dear to the Russian, hung upon the walls. Through interpretation we talked to the patients, and learnt that as soon as they recovered they returned to Russia, many adding they were sorry to leave when the time came for their departure. The army nurses in their white dresses and mob-caps with the Red Cross looked very nice; one of

them spoke fluent Russian, and was a very intelligent, pleasant-looking woman. From here we went to the temporary military hospital, some way off. I found it had been built very much on the plans of the one at Hiroshima, which had so greatly impressed me. The accommodation here was for three hundred — the building was not yet completed ; but, when finished, there will be room for yet another hundred. We first visited the officers' wards, which were in a separate block. The space allowed each patient was liberal, the ventilation throughout excellent, the surroundings of the cleanest, and there was an air of European comfort everywhere pervading. Some of the patients looked very ill and all a little depressed, though this was not due to their surroundings but to the fact of their hearing of the repeated reverses, of which news had leaked out in spite of the strictest precaution being observed in the camp. One officer spoke English, and said they were all doing well, and were thoroughly well looked after. All had received wounds at the battle of Ku-ren-jo. We next entered the privates' block, which was arranged exactly on the same principle as the officers', having the same neat appearance, the only difference being that the men were placed closer together, and were lying on very thick mattresses instead of bedsteads ; scarlet blankets were used throughout, which mate-

rially added to the pleasing effect. Ward after ward was visited in turn, and at the entrance of each an interpreter called out in a thundering voice in Russian the object of our visit, which I believe for various reasons had been explained to the men in the same way as to the Japanese troops—*i.e.* that her Majesty Queen Alexandra was deeply interested in their health, therefore I had been permitted to enquire as to their welfare. All seemed interested in and pleased with our visit, and before leaving the ward a plaintive, but full, chorus in Russian sounded, which every time the interpreter explained to me in the following words: "They thank you very much for your business." This interpretation sounds very literal, but hardly good sense. The nurses seemed to have much to do, but this being a reserve hospital, they were assisted by the Ladies' Volunteer Nursing Association. As I have already mentioned, this association works directly under the Red Cross Society, and I now had the privilege of seeing the practical outcome of their work. The members, who number 120, are called upon in batches of eight every week to give their services to the hospital. Being subordinate to the trained nurse, they carry out what might be called the minor part of nursing, such as washing bandages, carrying the meals, and keeping the wards tidy. Reading to and generally amusing the patients is also looked

upon as part of their duty. Their services are entirely honorary, and here in Matsuyama they are fulfilling an even more difficult mission. Unpleasant rumours had been in circulation that the Russians did not show the chivalry and respect due to these nurses, so each lady was appointed a ward, to direct and control the patients, and give moral support to the nurse—not that there was any real cause for anxiety. The medical officer in charge of the hospital emphatically denied the report, and told me that the patients were very well-behaved, and most grateful for all that was done for them. The wisdom of this precaution must commend itself to everyone. These women are all of good birth, and by being so placed in the wards they are in a position to contradict any scandalous rumours. The eyes of the world are now fixed upon Japan, and she will not allow it to be said by her enemies that there was a grave scandal, even in the medical department. The patients were all doing well, but we saw some very sad cases, and I am sorry to say a good many amputations ; one man had nine bullet wounds in his chest and back, of which he seemed duly proud, but he was practically well. The most pathetic of all was that of a young man of twenty-three, of a remarkably fine appearance, who, having been shot through both eyes, was totally blind. His state of depression was lamentable, but on our stopping to

speak to him he seemed very much pleased. There is so little to be said when you come face to face with such shocking realities, yet he seemed to understand our unexpressed sympathy, for on our taking leave of him he put out both hands in a most piteous way. His future was of the saddest. The doctor informed us that the ignorance of some of the men was astounding; they could neither read nor write their names, and in many cases did not know the names of their officers. However, we did see some who could read; one man especially attracted our attention, and he showed us with great pride the picture of his Emperor on the frontispiece of his book. The nurses had made the wards look very cheerful, and by many a bedside were vases of flowers. That our visit made a break in the monotony of their lives I am sure by the great interest they evinced in us as we passed from block to block, all who were able crowding to the windows. Many of the men appealed to us immensely, owing to their almost English appearance, and some were extremely handsome. It was quite easy to distinguish the Cossack, his build was heavier and his face coarse, but somehow one felt a feeling of repugnance towards him. Many remarks have been made that the Japanese have not yet met the Russian—only the Cossack; but when they did, they would find a totally different enemy, and a far more

business to be a prisoner. The spokesman of the party was a tall, fine-looking man, who spoke English. He introduced himself as Lieutenant Krauze; next he presented his brother-officers. His excitement was so intense as to be emotional; he plied us with a thousand questions as to the outer world, and the latest war news, which question we managed to evade by saying we could not read the Japanese newspapers. We were most careful not to mention having been to the front. "A rumour has reached us here that we have had several severe reverses; if this be true," he said, "the war cannot last long." He spoke highly of the care taken of them; but they had one regret—the lack of literature. All they had to read were some Russian Testaments, sent by some missionaries; they pined for books, either in Russian, French, or English, and asked me to tell the authorities in Tokio of this great want. I promised to do all in my power in their behalf, and enquired if there was any other small service I could render them. Lieutenant Krauze then wrote a message on a card in quaint English, and asked me to insert the following in one of the English newspapers: "Lieutenant Lewis Krauze. Mr. Moon. Remind him of me," which I promised to do if I had permission from the Japanese Government. Afterwards I showed the officer in charge the card, asking if he had any objection

to my carrying out my promise, and he readily complied. Our visit had lasted for over half an hour, so I felt we ought to go, as we were keeping many people waiting who had accompanied us. The farewells were most pathetic, and their gratitude at our coming so extreme as to be upsetting, for they followed us to our rikshas, eagerly talking up to the last moment. We shall never forget the expression on their faces as they watched us depart. It made us truly realise what freedom means. Mrs. Byron, the American missionary, very generously offered us an English meal at her house, as there was only Japanese food to be procured in the town. We accepted her invitation gladly, and as we had to leave by the 6.30 train, we had no time to waste. On reaching the house we found a very excellent meal waiting, during which I received a note from Lieutenant Krauze, making a slight correction in the message he wished me to insert in the paper. I mention this incident simply to show with what courtesy the Japanese treat their prisoners. The note was sealed down, and they did not even ask to know its contents, but I took care to hand it over at once to Madame Kuroda. Just before leaving, the ladies of the Red Cross Society presented me with two pieces of china peculiar to the island—an incense burner and a vase. Our return to the station was as elaborate as our arrival. Hundreds of people

collected round the station, and the school-girls were again waiting to bid us farewell, many of the ladies of the Volunteer Nursing Association accompanying us back in the train to the steamer. In passing the Russian prisoners' quarters, we were deeply touched to see all the officers standing on the bank watching for our train, and waving adieux until we were out of sight. How they must have envied us our liberty! We were a little early for the boat, and so had to wait half an hour on the wharf, which was no hardship, as the sunset was magnificent. All the little Japanese ladies were full of fun, and tried to teach us Japanese words, over which there was much amusement. The day had been a very pleasant one, though at the same time *triste*, but we were carrying away the kindest remembrance of our cordial reception. Sitting on the boat, watching the island disappear, an overwhelming pity for the wounded and a feeling of intense sorrow for the prisoners whose country was receiving such a terrible and humiliating lesson from the Japanese, and who were taking it so much to heart, divided our sympathies; but what brought it so forcibly home to us was the knowledge that it was a western nation which was thus being so bitterly humbled. Not that my respect and admiration for the Japanese wavered; it had increased tenfold after all I had just been allowed to see. They are a truly mar-

vellous people. Little over thirty years ago they knew nothing of European civilisation, and here, to-day, I had witnessed a treatment of their enemies which would reflect the greatest credit on any nation. The Russians were being treated as guests of the country, not mere prisoners of war. A practical illustration of some of the considerations shown towards these men are given in the following: If any officer is found to be without money, a grant of 50 yen (£5) is allowed him from the Government. Each officer has a servant provided; he may buy any luxury the town of Matsuyama can afford, and if he is ill he can have the best medical care; European food is provided as far as is practicable, and all his surroundings are both healthy and clean. The men are treated with much the same thought; they are well housed and have good food, and are given excellent material to make clothes. The treatment of the wounded is of the best, and when artificial limbs are needed, the Empress of Japan defrays the expense. These limbs are made in the country, and with the greatest success.

Wednesday, June 22nd.

We began our day late, for we were tired with the fatigues of yesterday; besides, we knew we had to face forty-eight hours of railway travelling, as we were returning to Tokio this evening. Several people came in

very nice on arriving to receive a very hearty welcome from the Governor and his wife, including members of the Red Cross and Ladies' Volunteer Nursing Association. Princess Murakumo sent kind messages. The Governor's wife presented us both with two large baskets of flowers, tied with red and white ribbons. Everyone seemed genuinely glad we had returned in safety. We now passed through the tea-district. The country was extremely beautiful, but everything seemed very *petite* after the grand scenery of Manchuria. In some places we saw corn growing in small quantities, but it is not much cultivated. Outside one small country station we watched women thrashing it with long sticks. They are extraordinarily industrious, being up with the dawn and working until almost the last ray of daylight. These people must impress everyone in town or country as being most thrifty, hard-working, and economical. As the train stopped at every little station, and only went about eighteen miles an hour, we had plenty of time to see the country.

the orders they had just received was for 50,000 field dressings to be made in a given time. This means that she and thirty members of the Ladies' Volunteer Nursing Association will have to work at the Red Cross hospital (in rooms set apart for the purpose) almost day and night, and she and her workers may very probably have to remain through the heat of the summer in Tokio, as there is no likelihood of the orders diminishing. Added to this seemingly overwhelming task thousands and thousands of bandages are also being turned out weekly, prepared, rolled, and packed by the members, every precaution being taken to render them aseptic. Those who are employed have to wear white cotton overalls and to bare their arms. The Baroness is certainly a very clever woman, and one appreciates it more every time one meets her. Her genuine affection for her husband's country is easily seen; she is throwing herself heart and soul into every movement which will advance the real welfare of Japan. Indeed, she is a firm friend to the Japanese, and they owe her much. Her capacity for work is astonishing. No one can doubt the spirit of patriotism and devotion which inspires all the women of Japan. The example I have just given is only one of the many showing the implicit confidence and trust the War Office place in the Red Cross Society. The authorities know that whatever

selected members are notified that they will be required to "go on duty" for a stated period, and carry out the above-mentioned work. From the Empress downwards, the women are performing a most heroic duty. The sympathy the society extends to the departing troops, and to the returning sufferers, tends to mitigate some of the miseries of war, but not content with seeing the men have a hearty send-off, they arrange to meet them at various stations *en route* to the front. Large dining-sheds are erected at the important stopping-places, and every facility is given the troops to write a last line home, packets of postcards being distributed amongst them. The influence of the society's work is felt throughout the country; the very air seems to breathe its name. Surely this society might be described as a national depôt for the generous emotions of the people. In times of great national calamity strong emotional feelings must sweep the entire country, and these far-thinking people have had the wisdom to gather up and utilise to the fullest advantage this inevitable wave of sympathy, by firmly, but kindly, directing it into a right channel, but at the same time closing the way to any other means of outlet, forbidding promiscuous generosity.

important method of supplying the troops with boiled water in the field, and which I allowed him to have on the understanding that he should use them in his report to the War Office. It is very grievous to think how little real trouble is taken at home by the officials to see that our army medical men do actually acquire the priceless knowledge and experience which are to be gained only at the commencement of a war like the present. If I had not made strenuous efforts to be sent out when I did, the practical knowledge would have been lost irretrievably, as no one else was allowed to see it. One reason, I think, why this medical officer—who, to do him justice, was exceedingly anxious to go up with the first Army Corps—was not allowed, was due to the fact that they did not wish to be encumbered with an extra attaché, as already fourteen had been sent. What has the army medical to do with the combatant officer on occasions like this? Why should he not be attached direct to the medical service of the country which is fighting? For then he would be no burden to the actual army; the medical corps would take charge of him, and know where he could obtain the most useful knowledge. But the authorities at home seem to content themselves with the fact that an army doctor has been sent out to Japan; but as to seeing whether he has the suitable means of carrying out his mission is a secondary

consideration. In the afternoon we had tea with Mrs. Hume, and told her all the news we could think of about her husband. She and her children are living in a charming little Japanese house, to which she has added a touch of English home life. Her little boy of six years is the sweetest little fellow, and just before leaving he asked me if I should see Lord Roberts on my return home. On my replying that it was not unlikely, he turned to his mother, asking "if one man could send his love to another man, because if so, I wish to send mine to Lord Roberts." Our dinner at the d'Anethans was most enjoyable—but I am conscious that we did most of the talking, for they were so deeply interested to hear how unreserved and generous the Japanese had been in helping me to gain the information I was seeking. Baron and Baroness d'Anethan, most charming and hospitable people, who have lived years here, have a great admiration and affection for the Japanese, knowing their true value.

Monday, June 27th. Tokio.

I left the hotel at 9 a.m., intending to meet Madame Kuroda and proceed to the largest women's prison some long way out of Tokio. I was driven to a country railway station, but found no one to meet me, so waited for over an hour, much to the amusement of the peasants. I don't think I ever felt so help-

less in my life. I did not know the name of the place I was going to or the station I was at, as Madame Kuroda had given written directions the night before to the coachman, her usual custom. In sheer desperation I walked up to several people on the platform and asked if they could speak English, at which they only shook their heads. As quite a crowd collected round me, I decided to return. Fortunately for me I had kept the carriage, but even then I had some slight difficulty in making the coachman understand my decision; but pointing in the direction by which I had come and repeating "Metropole" several times, he finally grasped my meaning. I returned to the hotel feeling cross and hot, but decided that no power should take me out again. Presently Madame Kuroda rushed into the room, almost faint with excitement. I had never seen a Japanese exhibit so much feeling before; she sought no explanation of my non-appearance at the station, only beseeching me to start by a later train. When I refused, she begged me to reconsider my decision, saying over and over again, "It is official, and we dare not put it off," but I remained firm, knowing that if we had left by the late train we should not have returned until all hours of the night. The whole thing was so simply explained; the man had made a mistake in the station, and my time, which was limited, would not

Thursday, June 30th. Tokio.

We lunched with Captain and Mrs. Brinkley. I was very glad to have the opportunity of meeting this well-known Englishman, who has lived here over thirty-five years, and has written so extensively on the old and new Japan. How much he is to be envied, having seen the break of dawn emerge into the light of perfect day! The Japanese are more than a "wonderful people," they are *great!* This greatness is not due to enormous wealth or extensive possessions, but to the priceless gift—intelligence; and Japan is fast becoming, by using this mental power, the England of the Far East. Before leaving, Captain Brinkley begged me to write my experiences, saying no foreigner had ever been afforded such opportunities of knowing the Japanese. Indeed, he is right; I have seen and learnt so much that the knowledge has become a great responsibility, realising how much it can be turned to good account for our national welfare. The Red Cross Society are holding a meeting to-morrow afternoon, and particularly wish that I should make a short speech. It is the only public opportunity I shall have of thanking the people of Japan for the lavish kindness they have shown towards us; therefore I have complied with their request.

Friday, July 1st. Tokio.

At 9.30 a.m., accompanied by Madame Kuroda, I left for the Palace. It was very nice having the privilege of again visiting this place. The beautiful scent pervading it seemed quite familiar. The large drawing-room into which on the former occasion we had been shown, looked exactly as I had remembered it, the only difference being that this time Madame Kuroda and I had it entirely to ourselves. The Empress's Chamberlain soon entered and conducted me to the same little room as on my first visit. Nothing seemed to have changed; the Empress was standing in the same attitude, the same little ladies of waiting around, and if it had not been for the different colour of their dresses I could have believed I was living my first presentation over again. Through her interpreter the Empress asked many questions about the hospitals at the front. She then presented me with a most beautiful little gold cabinet, saying it was a souvenir of Japanese art, and her Chamberlain handed me a box in the same style for Miss St. Aubyn, with the Empress's kind wishes. On returning to the hotel I looked through over two hundred Government photographs, which was a great concession on the part of the authorities, as they are taken by their "official photographers," one of whom is always

attached to an army corps. The plates and films are not allowed to be developed on the spot, but are sent to the War Office for development, and through these means they are able to gain practical information of much pertaining to the front. At 2.30 we started for the Red Cross Society's offices. The meeting was large, and many of the princesses were present. Marchioness Oyama was again my interpreter, and I related a few of our experiences, starting with our journey to and from Fang-hwang-chêng and our visit to Matsuyama; at the same time I expressed my thanks for the honour the society had done me in making me a life member. The Marchioness Oyama seemed greatly pleased by the enthusiasm displayed at her husband going to the front, and told us of a thoughtful act on the part of the Emperor and Empress, they having given the marquis a specially designed victoria and a pair of splendid horses, as he is no longer able to ride for any length of time. She is working very hard just now; indeed, she and the Marchioness Nabéshima and the Baroness Sannomiya are literally wearing themselves out. In these three women you notice the effect of the strain the war is putting upon Japan. They are striving with a feverish anxiety and determination in order that no part of the duties undertaken by the society's women members shall be found imperfect or wanting in this hour of

need. I should like to have had the privilege of being allowed to stay and help them professionally, as I felt I understood to a certain degree their nervous anxiety in this life-and-death struggle. With deep regrets we said good-bye, for this was the last meeting we should attend in Japan. Accompanied by Madame Kuroda, we left at 7.30 for General Térauchi's house, and were met on the steps by two aides-de-camp. General Térauchi and his wife received us in the European part of their house. He appeared anxious for her, as she could speak neither English nor French, but her native beauty of manner rendered her completely at her ease. She was in her Japanese dress; so was her daughter, Mrs. Kodama, daughter-in-law of the celebrated General Kodama. The guests included Sir Claude and Lady MacDonald, Sir William Nicholson, Colonel Oka, Madame Kuroda, and others. Colonel Oka, who is in the War Office, I was particularly glad to meet, as he had been instrumental in carrying out all arrangements made in connection with my mission since our arrival in Tokio. He spoke English, more or less; was a tall man for a Japanese, and had a strong, clever face. All the officers were in their morning uniform, Madame explaining that in war time they had always to dress in readiness for an emergency. I was taken in to dinner by Colonel Oka—or, rather, I took him in, as he insisted

on taking my arm. This afforded me the opportunity of thanking him for all the thought he had bestowed on our behalf, and also of expressing my deep regret that we should have added another burden to the War Office at a moment when their resources were taxed to the uttermost. After dinner, General Térauchi presented me with a complete outfit and equipment of an Infantry man's kit for winter and summer, as well as a case fitted with samples of the provisions and forage now in use; also two of the stretchers I had so much admired in the hospitals. The clothing and equipment are very carefully and economically thought out, the woollen materials used are made by their military cloth factories, while the hemp cloth, cotton, and leather are prepared in private factories, but cut out and made in the military depôt. It was surprising to see what a variety of foods were used for the troops. Although rice plays a great part (the list inserted at the end of the book will show that), it is not by any means their one food; and such remarks as to their transport being "such a very simple matter, only a bag of rice," is answered by a casual glance at the list. The already cooked, desiccated rice, which only needs a little boiling water or milk poured upon it, must be of priceless value in a field hospital. With the exception of tinned beef the provisions are prepared in private factories, but the question of the beef

they consider more serious; therefore the cattle are inspected and killed and afterwards prepared and tinned under the supervision of the military. General Térauchi, on presenting me with these valuable gifts, expressed the hope that I should show them to "the people of England." This evening was a delightful finish to our stay in Japan; the hospitality and kindness we had received from everyone can never be forgotten by us, and we said good-bye to General Térauchi with the most sincere feelings of regret. He had spared himself no trouble at a time when he very well might have been pardoned if he had left the arrangements for us entirely in subordinate hands.

Sunday, July 3rd. Tokio.

We have been reserving this morning for our packing, which required a professional Japanese packer, for we have acquired such a quantity of extra things; and it was most wonderful to see how he gauged exactly every square inch of room, and fitted everything in with a nicety worthy of even a better object. All day people came to wish us good-bye. The senior member of the Ladies' Patriotic Fund also called, bringing me two exquisitely painted fans, by one of their most famous artists, the subjects specially painted as being appropriate to my departure. The true Japanese fan is severe, but very lovely in its simplicity.

Monday, July 4th. Tokio.

Our last day in Japan. We left for Shimbashi station, where we were met by Madame Kuroda and Taguchi, who for so many weeks had been our travelling companions. The Marchioness Oyama, as president of the Ladies' Patriotic League, had come to bid us farewell on behalf of the society, and presented me with a basket of beautifully made artificial flowers from all the members; it was specially kind of her to come, as Marquis Oyama was leaving for the front in two days. When thanking her for sparing the time she said, "I have been very busy packing my husband's things, but now it is finished." Many people had kindly come to wish us farewell, amongst whom were the members of the Red Cross Society, the Ladies' Volunteer Nursing Association, the Patriotic League, Colonel Oka (from the War Office), the Governor and Mayor of Tokio, and others. Viscount Hayashi's sister was also present, and asked me to tell her brother, whom I might meet in London, "that they were all working hard for their country." Such a kindly send-off was deeply appreciated by us both; but it was only the final touch to what had been one continuous expression of cordiality and welcome since our arrival in Japan, and we were now leaving behind a feeling of friendship for these people which in ordinary circumstances would have taken

years to form. When have two European women ever had such a unique experience in their lives—that of going to the front entirely under the protection and care of an eastern army? The chivalry and hospitality extended to us throughout can surely have no parallel, and we must ever remain in the position of debtors to a country which has so truly gained our deepest gratitude. Madame Kuroda accompanied us on board the *Sardinia*, and very hard we found it to say good-bye. She had been our constant friend, companion, and interpreter for over two months, and in spite of its not being the custom of her people to show any emotion, tears filled her eyes when the moment came for our departure. But for her tact and cleverness I should never have been able to understand the customs of her country, and gather up all the useful information I did. She never once became impatient with my bombardment of questions, or weary of translating papers on subjects which could have no possible interest for her. Her keen sense of the ridiculous again and again helped us through difficult situations. Always unselfish, and with a mind stored with picturesque thoughts, was it any wonder that we had grown fond of her? She had many quaint sayings, one of which comes vividly to my mind now. When explaining to us that demonstrations of affection were unknown in Japan, except perhaps in such a case as a mother's

impulsive love towards her young child, she solemnly added, "Kissing was imported, you know; we have only recently learnt it from foreigners. I cannot ever remember having been kissed by my parents." From that moment we always spoke of the "Imported Kiss."

APPENDIX.

THE ORIGIN, THE FOUNDATION, THE OUTCOME OF THE RED CROSS SOCIETY OF JAPAN.

ORIGIN.

In 1877, during the Civil War, the "Hakuaisha," or Benevolent Society, was formed with the object of providing comforts for the wounded, both rebel and imperialist without distinction. Their success was exceptional, and it is attributed in a great measure to the fact of their having placed themselves under the direction of the Army. At the end of hostilities this temporary organisation (which has proved so beneficial to the country) determined to remain permanent. Such a movement was the first of the kind to be undertaken, and during the nine years which elapsed before the Government adhered to the Geneva Convention, the organisers were unceasing in their efforts to prevent it from lapsing into a lukewarm institution. Baron Hashimoto became the leading spirit. In Europe he studied the workings of various Red Cross societies, and on returning to Japan, published a book called "The Red Cross," in which he urged the necessity of establishing not only a similar society, but a hospital where doctors and nurses could receive training and practice. The book called forth such warm response that it was decided to build a hospital, which was to be

known as the " Hakuaisha " Hospital, and it was completed and opened by the Empress on November 17th, 1886—two days after the Government had adhered to the Geneva Convention. For the furtherance of the " Hakuaisha's " connection with the Government, it was decided to place their hospital under the complete control of the " War Office " in war time, its name changing from the " Hakuaisha " Hospital into the Military Reserve Hospital; ten Military doctors were also chosen to be on the Hospital staff, and the Army doctors, wishing to show their appreciation of the Society, subscribed over 2,000 yen. It now became necessary for the " Hakuaisha " to revise its constitution and bye-laws in such a way as to enable it to be affiliated with the Geneva Convention, so in the same year it was reconstituted, and henceforth known as the " Red Cross Society of Japan."

FOUNDATION.

But the legal incorporation did not take place until 1902, when it received the patronage of the Emperor and Empress, together with an annual subscription of about 15,000 yen, and the following were the unique distinctions and privileges accorded to the Society: Firstly, the patronage of the Emperor and Empress; secondly, the Emperor's sanction on the nomination of the President and Vice-President, and important administrators; thirdly, the Society was placed under the control of the Government; fourthly, that all special and honorary badges received Imperial sanction, and were allowed to be worn with Imperial orders. His Imperial Highness, the late Prince Komatsu, foreseeing the stupendous

possibilities to the Government if this Society were a thoroughly national enterprise, took the matter in hand, and it is due to his strenuous efforts that this Red Cross Society stands to-day in such a unique position before the civilised world. The Prince touched the only note which could build up such a mighty institution, that of patriotism, and appealing to the mass thus, he could not fail to gain the support he was seeking.

Method Employed.—The first practical step taken was to appoint all Governors and Mayors throughout Japan to be the Society's representatives, at once authorising them to hold meetings which were to place before the people the importance of the movement and the advantages to be gained by becoming members. The country at the same time was flooded with literature. Graphic magic lantern lectures illustrating the purport of the Society were constantly given, which appealed to the simple country people as nothing else could have done. Through these methods the districts were thoroughly canvassed and the Society developed with such rapidity, that in 1902, when it became legally associated with the Geneva Convention, it had outstripped the most sanguine expectations, and the financial condition was extremely sound.

Finance.—The members' subscriptions, which varied from 6s. up to £20, added a substantial yearly sum. One receiving depôt for money was appointed—namely, Tokio. All expenses incurred in country districts were examined and paid for from this centre. Later on, the larger towns, like Kioto, Osaka, and Yokohama were authorised to keep their own local revenue, but even then there

national generosity in such a manner as to turn it to the fullest account, money and gifts being so regulated as to obtain their fullest value, not only to the troops, but to the Army Medical Department. It might not be inappropriate to describe this branch of the Red Cross Society as a Depôt for National Emotion. At the present time the Society's income stands at £250,000 and the members number over a million.

RED CROSS NOTES.

"ACT CONCERNING THE JAPANESE RED CROSS SOCIETY" (1901).

Translation.

Article 1.—"The Japanese Red Cross Society is authorised to assist the sanitary service of the Army and the Navy within the limits fixed by the Ministers of the Army and of the Navy."

Article 2.—"The President and Vice-President of the Japanese Red Cross Society assume their office subject to the Imperial authorisation."

Article 3.—"The Ministers of the Army and of the Navy control the Japanese Red Cross Society for the object set forth in Article 1."

Article 4.—"The members of the Relief Corps of the Japanese Red Cross Society are subject to the discipline of the Army and the Navy, whose orders they are under obligation to obey."

Article 5.—"In time of war members of Relief Corps and supplies of the Japanese Red Cross Society shall be placed on the same footing as

those of the Army and of the Navy with respect to their transportation by Government railway."

Article 6.—"When subject to service in time of war the administrators, physicians, pharmaceutists, and superintendent nurses of the Japanese Red Cross Society shall be placed in the same rank with the officers of the Army and of the Navy; clerks, assistant pharmaceutists, head nurses, chief attendants, and chief stretcher-bearers in the same rank with the non-commissioned officers, and the nurses, attendants, and stretcher-bearers in the same rank with the privates."

Article 7.—"The lodging, food, vessels, carriages, and horses for the members of the Relief Corps of the Japanese Red Cross Society shall, under certain circumstances, be supplied by the Government."

General Outline of the Society's Organisation (1904).

Hospital.—The Red Cross Society's Hospital is the only one privileged to supply the Army with nurses in war time. It has a Reserve of over 3,000 trained nurses ready for immediate service. In peace time civilian patients are received into the hospital, paying and non-paying, by this means affording practical opportunity to students and nurses; at the same time paying patients greatly assist the funds of the hospital.

How Doctors are Selected.—Doctors who graduate from the Imperial Universities are taken without further examination, but candidates from other medical schools must pass an examination. Doctors elected receive a small retaining fee, but

on active service are paid an adequate salary, and are provided with the Society's uniform.

Nurses.—Before candidates can become Probationers in this hospital, they have to pass two examinations—one in constitutional fitness, the other in education. Their training extends over three years, at the end of which time, if they pass their examinations, they have the privilege of becoming Army Nurses, which means that they will nurse in the Military Reserve Hospitals in war time. Female nursing is not used in Military hospitals during peace. Nurses are obliged to sign, on the completion of their training, articles which bind them to the Society for fifteen years, but which place no restriction as to nursing in other hospitals or marrying, but they are bound to report themselves at stated times to the hospital authorities.

Male Nurses.—Orderlies trained by the Red Cross Society receive their preliminary training in the Society's hospital, but before passing their final examination, they have to give five months in a Military hospital. They must be of superior class and education.

The Ladies' Volunteer Nursing Association is completely under the control of the Red Cross Society, and carries out the women's work throughout the Society, such as the making of field dressings and bandages, and would generally assist in the probationary part of Military nursing if the necessity arose for further aid. Members are obliged to attend a course of lectures on nursing for two years before they can become full members.

Hospital Ships.—The Society owns two hospital ships, which the Government can apply for on

Society at its annual general meeting. There are also three inspectors, and a General Director, Prince Kanin."

Councillors.—"The Councillors are elected from the Resident Members in Tokio at the general meeting, but the names submitted to the Emperor. The office is honorary, and lasts for three years."

Managers.—"The nominations of the Managers, Presidents, and Vice-Presidents have to obtain His Majesty's approval before entering on their duties; these offices are also honorary."

President.—"The President directs general affairs, appoints commissioners, and engages employers."

Supervisors "are three in number, and also have to obtain Imperial sanction."

"A general meeting must be held at least once in every year."

Branches.—"Branches are established throughout the country by the decision of the Standing Council."

LIST OF BRANCHES.

"There are forty-eight branches, including one in Hokkaidô and one in Formosa. Each branch provides not less than two detachments, consisting of the following: 2 Medical officers, 1 pharmaceutist, 1 clerk, 2 chief nurses, 20 women nurses. Sixteen out of the forty-eight branches can provide sixteen bodies of male nurses, Tokio providing two extra bodies, making a total of three thousand and sixteen. The total number of members of the Society now reaches just over 1,000,000."

Grades of Membership.—"There are three kinds of membership—honorary, special, and

President of the Society must submit his plans to the authorities."

Article 8.—" When Relief Corps are organised the President must submit to the Minister of War or Navy, as the case may be, a list of the members of the Relief Staff, giving name, date of birth, present abode, civil status, and occupation of each individual."

RELIEF STAFF.

" The Relief Staff shall be composed only of those who have undergone a certain course of education and training, and is divided into the following classes :

Article 18.—" (1) The Administrative Staff, (2) Medical Staff, (3) Pharmaceutists, (4) Clerks, (5) Assistant Pharmaceutists, (6) Attendants, (7) Stretcher-bearers, (8) General Administrator, (9) Administrator, (10) Manager.

" The General Administrator belongs to the Imperial Headquarters, and directs and controls the relief service, of course always acting under Naval and Military authority, the Director-General of the Field Sanitary Service or the chief of the Bureau of Medical Affairs of the Naval Department. He is actually commissioned subject to the approval of the Minister of War or Navy."

Article 25.—" The Administrator, being placed under the direction of the General Administrator, shall direct and control the Relief Corps, and manage the affairs concerning the service, supply vacancies, pay and allowances of the Relief Staff, and the replenishment of supplies."

Article 28.—" The Managers, with the exception of the one in charge of the Depôts of supplies,

shall manage the general affairs of the Relief Corps to which he belongs."

SPECIAL PROVISIONS FOR WAR AND EMERGENCIES.

Article 33.—" When war or disastrous occurences call for the carrying out of relief measures, the President has the authority to transform the Standing Council into an Extraordinary Council by the addition to the former body of a number of temporary Councillors required, selecting them from among the members of the Society. He may also elect temporary Managers from the Council."

Article 34.—" The Medical Staff shall care for the sanitation service and supervise the service of the chief women nurses and those under them."

Article 35.—" The Pharmaceutist Staff shall oversee the work of the Assistant Pharmaceutists, attendants and mechanics, and attend to the dispensing of medicine as well as to the affairs concerning the reception, distribution, and preservation of sanitary supplies."

Article 36.—" The Supervisors of women nurses are to direct the chief women nurses under the command of the superior officers, and to see to the work and discipline of the nurses."

Article 37.—" The duties of the Clerks and those under them shall be determined by the President."

PART OF RELIEF DETACHMENTS.

Article 38.—" Relief Detachments shall assist in the Army or Navy hospital service, and in the transportation of patients, and shall carry out such work as may be specially entrusted to them by the Military or Naval Authorities."

Article 39.—"A Relief Detachment shall in general care for 100 patients, and is organised as follows: 2 Medical Officers, 1 Pharmaceutist, 1 Clerk, 2 Chief Nurses (or chief attendants), 20 Women Nurses (or attendants). Total, 26 persons."

Obedience.—"Should members of the Relief Staff disobey or be found incompetent in their duties, they will be dealt with in accordance with the Navy and Army Regulations.

"A Relief Detachment may sometimes be subdivided and despatched for special service when so ordered by the Minister of War or Navy."

PATIENTS' TRANSPORT COLUMN.

Article 43.—"A Transport Column shall have the capacity of transporting thirty patients as a rule, and shall be organised as follows: 1 Manager, 1 Medical Officer, 1 Clerk, 2 Chief Attendants, 3 Chief Stretcher-bearers, 3 Attendants, 120 Stretcher-bearers. Total, 131 persons."

Article 44.—"The number of Transport Columns to be kept prepared for the Army shall be three."

HOSPITAL SHIPS.

"The two Red Cross Hospital Ships which the Society provides are the *Hakuai Maru* and *Kosai Maru*, sister ships belonging to the Nippon Yusen Kaisha line, and in time of peace are used as passenger vessels, but the Red Cross Society has the right to demand them at any moment. These ships are under the discipline of the Army and Navy. Both these ships carry 200 patients; if light cases, 250. Hospital staff as follows:

the Front without permission from the Staff as to whether they may go by rail, road, or water, unless they can be forwarded direct in the hospital ship of the Society."

Packing Supplies.—"All packages for transportation must be marked with the Red Cross. The boxes must be strong, and tied with a red cord, and a label affixed with a distinct mark indicating number or nature of goods therein."

Gifts in Kind.—"The Society shall in time of War receive gifts and distribute the same. The nature of the gifts and the manner of dealing with them shall be determined by the President, under the authorisation of the Minister of War or Navy."

SIGNS OF NEUTRALITY.

Article 68.—"Members of the Relief Staff shall wear a badge on the left sleeve, and every vessel and package containing supplies shall be marked with the same sign. The President shall apply to the Minister of War or Navy for the issue of certificates for sleeve badges. When Relief Corps are disbanded these certificates are to be returned to the Minister of War or Navy with a statement of the reasons for dissolution."

Article 71.—"The President shall mark on each badge the number of the respective certificate and shall deliver them to the Relief Staff together with the certificate."

Article 72.—"The President shall make two copies of the register of recipients, of which one is to be kept at the Headquarters of the Society, and the other given to the General Administrator."

THE LADIES' VOLUNTEER NURSING ASSOCIATION (FOUNDED 1877).

Article 2.—"This Association shall be called 'The Ladies' Volunteer Nursing Association of the Red Cross Society of Japan.'"

Article 3.—"The Headquarters of the Association shall be at the Head Office of the Red Cross Society."

Article 4.—"This Association shall be attached to the Red Cross Society, and shall be under its supervision and protection." The object of this Association is to render aid to the sick and wounded.

"This Association draws its members from the Imperial Princesses, the Court, and wives and daughters of the nobility and gentry.

"*The Honorary President:* H.I.H. Princess Kanin.

"*President:* Marchioness Nabéshima.

"*Board of Management* the following: President, (1), Vice-President (1), Board of Council (35 members), Managers (12 members), Acting Manager (1), Advisors (number unspecified), Lecturers and Clerks (numbers unspecified)."

Article 31.—"Diplomas shall with the approval of the Lecturers and consent of the President, be conferred on those members who have taken lessons for over two years. Members who have made marked progress in their studies may obtain a Diploma before the expiration of the specified two years."

Article 11.—"A Report of the general affairs of the Head Office of the Association and of the Branch Office, together with a statement of

accounts shall be submitted to the Red Cross Society of Japan before March of every year."

Membership.—"The present membership of the Association is as follows: 427 at Headquarters (Tokio), and 4,300 at local branches. In 1903 there existed in the Society 14 Head Surgeons, 292 surgeons, 45 Apothecaries, 1,848 Women-Nurses, 756 Men-Nurses, and 3 Sanitary Inspectors."

NOTES.

SANITARY BOARD OF FANG-HWANG-CHÊNG, MANCHURIA, MAY, 1904.

Translated by a Japanese.

RULES.

THE Head Military Sanitary Board authorised the following on May 26th, 1904:—

I.—That the Committee of the Headquarters decided to call a meeting in council with the Sanitary Board of Army Corps (three in number).

II.—That the town of Fang-hwang-chêng be divided into three parts, and in each part there be a number of members with one head, and each head to be responsible for the thorough cleaning of the part allotted to them.

III.—That members of the M.S.B. should visit the Military districts, and that they decide the plan of the sanitary work, and also what materials are necessary for carrying out the work.

I.—*The Method of Practical Cleaning.*

Rules of the General Cleaning to be as follows :

(*a*) That the roads shall be repaired, and according to the situation of the roads, open or closed gutters shall be made.

(*b*) That the above work shall be completed by the officers and soldiers of the engineers and the Chinese coolies.

(*c*) That the waste water of the barracks shall be connected in such a way as to join the town gutters.

II.

(*a*) According to the numbers of the persons living in barracks or houses, w.c.'s shall be built, and that the men engaged for the purpose shall keep them clean.

(*b*) For the use of Chinese Residents a w.c. shall be built to every house, and others at convenient places in the streets.

(*c*) The refuse of the Military districts shall be burned by each of the Sanitary Corps at its most convenient place, and the refuse that is not combustible shall be carried away to a place assigned by the members.

(*d*) The stables owned by the natives shall be repaired, and they shall be thoroughly cleaned.

III.—*Wells.*

That stone or bricks should be used to build up the wells, so that there be no danger of impure water flowing in, and for draining purposes boards or tiles be placed around wells.

DETAILS OF THE EQUIPMENT, CLOTHING, PROVISIONS AND FORAGE OF THE IMPERIAL JAPANESE ARMY.

Clothing and Equipments.

Cap (marching order), for non-commissioned officers and privates of all arms of the Imperial Guards. Covering, used in summer. Hanging screen, during the hot season, hung from the cap, behind the head.

Woollen cloth jacket and trousers for the winter wear of a corporal of infantry of the Imperial Guards; distinguished from a private's by means of the bandages on the sleeves.

Summer jacket and trousers for non-commissioned officers and privates of all arms; distinction between the two by means of badges on the sleeves.

Overcoat for non-commissioned officers and privates of all arms.

Gaiters for non-commissioned officers and privates of infantry.

Shoes for non-commissioned officers and privates of infantry, made in the Military Clothing Depôt.

Knapsack for non-commissioned officers and privates of infantry, made by private industry in Japan.

Soldier's bag (made of hemp) for non-commissioned officers and privates of infantry.

Mess tin for non-commissioned officers and privates of infantry.

Water can for non-commissioned officers and privates of infantry.

Clothing menders for non-commissioned officers and privates of all arms.

Mosquito net for the face, given only to those in the field in summer.

Woollen cloth belly-band, given only to those in the field in summer.

Amongst the material used for the clothing and equipments, woollen cloth and blankets are made in the Military Woollen Cloth Factory, while hemp cloth and cotton, cloth and leather, are made or prepared in private factories in Japan, and cut out and sewn in the Military Clothing Depôt.

The cattle are all inspected before they are killed, and the meat is cooked and tinned under supervision of Military doctors.

Provisions and Forage.

Cleaned rice, 10,823 decilitres.

" Hoshi " (rice boiled and dried in the sun), 2 bags, 1,804 decilitres each.

Biscuits, 1 can, 225 grammes.

Tinned beef, seasoned with soy, 2 cans, 600 grammes each ; tinned beef, seasoned with soy, 2 cans, 150 grammes each.

Tinned fish : Small fish, 2 cans, 450 grammes each ; sardine, 2 cans, 450 grammes each ; mackerel, 2 cans, 450 grammes each ; tunny, 2 cans, 450 grammes each ; " masu " (a kind of salmon), 2 cans, 450 grammes each.

" Itowakame " (*Araria pinnatifilda* cut), 1 bottle, 30 grammes.

" Kirikombu " (*Laminaria japonica* cut), 1 bottle, 112.5 grammes.

" Kampyo " (a kind of gourd cut and dried in the sun), 1 bottle, 112.5 grammes.

Dried sweet potato, 1 bottle, 112.5 grammes :

dried root of the arrow-head, 1 bottle, 112.5 grammes; dried rhizoma of the *Nelumbium speciosum*, 1 bottle, 112.5 grammes; dried root of the burdock, 1 bottle, 112.5 grammes; dried potato, 1 bottle, 112.5 grammes; dried carrot, 1 bottle, 112.5 grammes; dried root of the taro, 1 bottle, 112.5 grammes; dried pease, 1 bottle, 225 grammes; dried kidney beans, 1 bottle, 225 grammes; dried black soy beans, 1 bottle, 225 grammes; dried "udzuramame" (a kind of bean), 1 bottle, 225 grammes.

Solid salt, 2 cans, each containing 50 cubes of 11.25 grammes each.

Powdered "miso" (a kind of sauce made of beans, salt, and yeast), 1 can, 1,875 grammes.

Vegetables pickled in soy, 2 cans, 450 grammes each.

Plums pickled in salt, 1 bottle, 187.5 grammes.

Extract of soy, 2 cans, 375 grammes each.

Compressed tea, 1 sheet.

Dried bonito, 8 pieces.

Barley (food for horses), 1 bottle, 5.412 decilitres.

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